

Hafa Adai!

Dining in? Here's what you need to know. PAGE 3
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Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

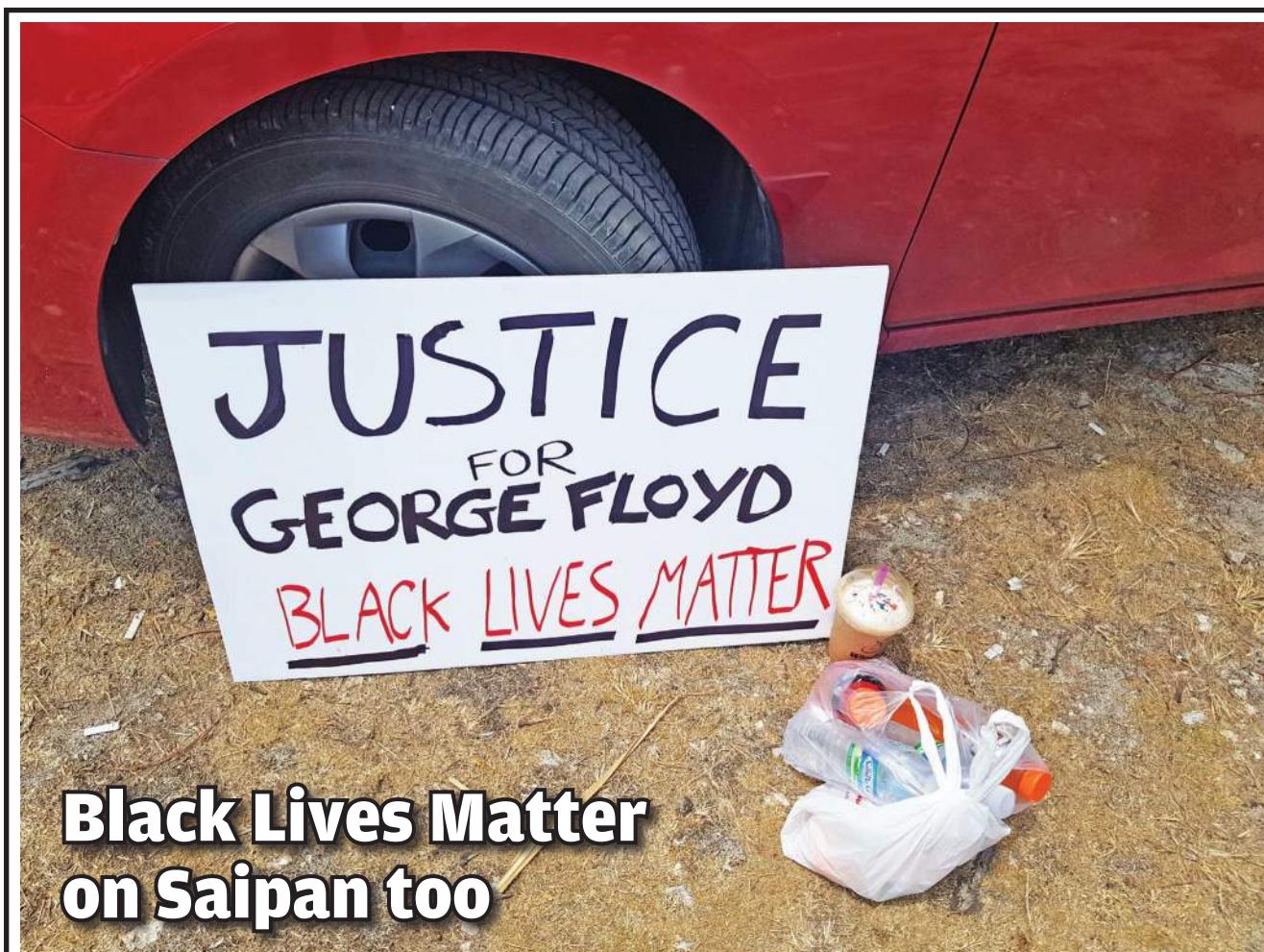
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One more recovery in NMI



Black Lives Matter on Saipan too

Photo shows a placard that says "Justice for George Floyd. Black Lives Matter," that was made by Zoe Travis who stood for two hours across Atkins Kroll on Beach Road yesterday, protesting the death of George Floyd, who died last May 25 in Minneapolis after a white police officer pressed his knee on Floyd's neck until he stopped breathing.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

By CHEVY ALIPIO
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REPORTER

The CNMI may be nearly

7,000 miles away from Minneapolis, but many of its residents are woke to what happened to George Floyd and

stand with African Americans and proponents of the Black Lives Matter movement. *Saipan Tribune* went out to

the community to check how they feel about the death of the 46-year-old Floyd and See BLACK on Page 4

29,000 stimulus checks totaling \$45 million issued

By IVA MAURIN
iva_maurin@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Department of Finance has already issued approximately 29,000 economic

impact payments—more popularly known as “stimulus checks”—totaling around \$45 million.

Finance’s Division of Revenue & Taxation is now work-

ing on issuing batches of payments every Friday, to provide taxpayers ample time to submit their returns. Notices are being prepared and sent out to taxpayers that received a

payment.
“What I encourage the taxpayers to do is to keep that notice, so that when they file their 2020 return, they’ll be See STIMULUS on Page 4

CNMI going up from 15 to 16, indicating that one more person has recovered from the virus.

See ONE on Page 4

‘IPI is standing fast with plans’

» Dotts is IPI new general counsel; Butcher is out as in-house counsel; Hasselback takes some cases

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Despite the COVID-19 pandemic that has severely affected its operations in the

CNMI and the lack of top officers on the ground, its newly hired general counsel, Michael W. Dotts, describes it as just a “transition” phase for the See IPI on Page 4

INSIDE



BUSINESS

Grotto Garlic Restaurant, which specializes in garlic steak, finally reopens after two months.

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NATION

Demonstrators took to the streets across America again to protest police killings of black people.

PAGE 12



ASIA

India reported more than 8,000 new cases of the coronavirus in a single day.

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Local

Man who punched gas attendant gets 1 day in prison

A man who punched and threatened to kill a male gas attendant at a gasoline station in Chalan Piao has pleaded guilty plea and was sentenced to one-year in prison, all suspended except for one day.

Inario Bisanen, 37, was given credit for one day of time served; this means he will now be set free.

Bisanen pleaded guilty to assault and battery last Thursday day as part of a plea deal.

In sentencing Bisanen, Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph H. Camacho said the suspended sentence may be imposed in whole or in part if Bisanen violates any law or Office of the Adult Probation rules.

The judge placed Bisanen on one year of probation.

During his probation, he is not allowed to contact the victim, is prohibited from using illegal drugs, complete and pay for any anger management program, and be subjected to random tests for drugs and/or alcohol.

Bisanen was ordered to pay \$330 in restitution to the victim, \$150 in fine, \$25 in

court costs, and \$120 in probation fee.

Last Feb. 10, the Office of the Attorney General charged Bisanen with assault and battery, and criminal mischief, which carry a total of two years' prison term. He has no prior conviction.

According to the factual basis of the plea agreement, on Jan. 3, 2020 at 10:30am, a police officer was dispatched to the Mobil Gas Station in Chalan Piao, where the assault happened.

The victim told the officer that Bisanen had driven his car to the station to buy gas earlier that morning. While the victim was pumping the gas, Bisanen got out of his vehicle, approached him, and after a brief exchange of words, punched him. The victim was hit, injuring his left eye and breaking a pair of sunglasses he was wearing. The victim sought medical treatment for his injuries and replacement for his glasses, incurring \$330 in expenses. The victim told police that he did not know Bisanen or why he was angry.

He said that, before the

punch, Bisanen asked him where he lives, his telephone number, and threatened to

kill him.

After the assault, Bisanen fled the scene.

A few minutes later, a police unit conducting routine patrol spotted Bisanen's car parked

in front of a store in Kobler-ville. The defendant was then arrested. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

Alyssa Gordon wins UOG's first-ever Sociology Award

Senior sociology major Alyssa Gordon has been named the winner of the University of Guam Sociology Program's first-ever *I Kannai Gi Tano'* (Hand in the Land) Sociology Award. The award recognizes the efforts and qualities of an outstanding sociology student who contributes to the community with selflessness, a strong work ethic, and a sense of responsibility for the land, sea, and community.

"This award recognizes the best of what it means to be from Guam, an island community that seeks to raise up daughters and sons that walk a path of service in all aspects of their lives and do so with a passion and determination that inspires others," said Kirk Johnson, professor of sociology.

The program faculty who selected Gordon described her as exemplifying impeccable character, strong leadership,



Alyssa Gordon, second from left, with fellow sociology majors, from left, Annie Fay Camacho, Richelle Uncangco, Artemia Perez, Amber Uncangco, and Heather Garrido participating in the Mañenggon Memorial Commemoration in 2019.

UNIVERSITY OF GUAM

and scholarship. "She is generous and goes out of her way to always serve others. She is hard-working and is the personification of what the discipline of sociology represents," the award reads.

"When I was presented this award, I was surprised that the faculty of the Sociology Program recognize all of these amazing qualities in me that sometimes I do not see in myself," Gordon said. "... This award, and the Sociology Program, has truly helped me in fueling my passion for the

environment and understanding the significance of educating the young people of our world to recognize that no matter what they do in life, they always have to remember the importance of selfless service."

Gordon is majoring in sociology and minoring in women and gender studies and is an active UOG Sociology Club member. Her undergraduate experience has included participation in the Bali Field School as part of the "Community Development" sociology course and later

presenting her research from Bali at an international conference in Tokyo.

Following her graduation this December, Gordon said she is considering graduate school "to not only continue educating myself about the world around me, but to contribute to the betterment of society and to give back to my community that has shaped me into the person I am today."

The award is the first in what the Sociology Program faculty hope will be an annual award. (PR)



HOME QUARANTINE

Tech. Sgt. Jude Camemo, right, of the Guam Air National Guard's 254th Security Forces Squadron, assists the Perez family as they leave the Oceanview Hotel quarantine facility in Tumon on June 1. The Perezes will transition to home quarantine, in accordance with DPHSS Guidance Memo 2020-11.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

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Dining in? Here's what you need to know

By IVA MAURIN
iva_maurin@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Planning to dine in?

With restaurants now allowed to provide dine-in services, at 25% of its originally permitted capacity and with strict social distancing rules and sanitation in place, people wanting to dine can play a big role in ensuring that customers are kept safe at the restaurant. How? By looking for the restaurant's posted certificate of compliance.

Since the CNMI is currently at the Yellow COVID-19 vulnerability scale, people should look for posted certifications of compliance with level Yellow requirements at restaurants.

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.'s Bureau of Environmental Health inspects and then gives compliant restaurants signed certificates of compliance, which includes the restaurant's sanitation permit number for reference.

The CHCC-BEH, which regulates food handlers and sanitation permitting, among other responsibilities, has begun on-site visits to restaurants to issue certifications of compliance for dine-in services.

To ensure businesses are compliant, CHCC chief executive officer Esther Muña said that they are working with the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, and with the businesses themselves. CHCC-BEH is set to speak at the Chamber's general membership meeting this week.

"Our BEH team is the one that's preparing, whether it's signs that show that this restaurant has gone through that training as they will be basically identified through color coding [in terms of] meeting the yellow requirements," Muña said, adding that they are also meeting with the restaurants. Should restaurant owners have questions, the CHCC-BEH will be able to assist.

Level Yellow: Guidance for restaurants

Under level Yellow, restaurants are to require reservations to control volume, and should maintain records of one point of contact for each party for contact tracing purposes. Self-service food or drinks, such as buffet-style dining or beverage refill stations, are not allowed.

The guideline for restaurants that was released last Friday advises people wanting to dine-in to make reservations, limit parties to four people, and to respect a 6-foot distance from the other parties who are also dining.

CHCC also recommends that restaurant patrons choose

outdoor seating if available, and to check if the restaurant accepts food orders ahead of time to reduce the wait time.

Restaurants must also implement social distancing through the posting of "one-way" flow signs, for entrance and then for exit, for crowd control; as well as of physical guides, such as tape on floors or sidewalks, to ensure that customers remain at least 6 feet apart in queues.

Restaurants should also discontinue preset tables; clean and disinfect frequently-touched surfaces; and wash, rinse, and sanitize all surfaces that come in contact with food after each use. They must also ensure that there are supplies to support healthy hand hygiene practices for both employees and customers.

Hand washing, covering coughs and sneezes, and use of face coverings by employees when near other employees and customers must also be strictly enforced. Employees with symptoms must be sent home.

All restaurant staff must also complete the online ServSafe trainings specific to COVID-19 transmission reduction within one week of offering services.

Signages on how to stop the spread of COVID-19 should also be posted, as well as signs on how to properly wash hands and how to properly wear a face covering; and a notice that no one with symptoms will be permitted inside should also be posted.

Citizen-watch

Restaurants that will be found to be non-compliant may be ordered closed by CHCC-BEH. According to the guidance, "if you believe a restaurant is operating out of compliance with the rules, you may contact 664-4677 to alert regulators."

With the restaurants' reopening, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres expressed appreciation to the community for strictly following the COVID-19 directives in place.

"I just want to thank, again, the community, for how they've been receptive to the directive, the changes, and just being part of the reopening, and their patience and understanding of the new norm. I just cannot emphasize how critical our community has played and made the CNMI a real place that we all can call home," he said in an interview.

Restaurant owners can request an inspection for compliance certification online at the CHCC's COVID-19 page at chcc.gov.mp or can call the CHCC BEH at 664-4870/2/3 between 7:30am and 4:30pm from Monday through Friday.



The open-air set-up of the Surf Club restaurant in Chalan Kanoa follows the social distancing requirement of a 6-foot distance between the tables.

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NMC gives out 230 degrees

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, the Northern Marianas College has conferred about 230 college degrees this year and, although NMC already distributed the degrees last week,

IPI

From Page 1

company, that it will eventually hire a chief executive officer and chief financial officer and, at that point, get a fulltime regular general counsel. But during this transition, Dotts said he is going to provide general counsel services for IPI.

At the same time, Dotts said yesterday that there is no plan for IPI to file for bankruptcy. With IPI plagued with money woes, rumors have been rife about an imminent bankruptcy filing but, when asked about this by reporters, Dotts said that all he can say is that he has not been instructed to file for bankruptcy.

"If this were an American company, we've done it already," he added.

He said people don't know how long this COVID-19 pandemic is going to last. "It could be in the next year before we see the business really come back, which means a very large commitment from the parent company to fund this company [IPI] for an extended period of time," he added. IPI's parent company is the Hong Kong-based Imperial Pacific International Holdings Ltd.

Questionis have been raised whether IPI can still continue with its casino/

BLACK

From Page 1

to chime in on the crisis enveloping America today.

Bernadette Horey said that, as people who live in a community with a tiny African American population, the CNMI has a lot to learn about the struggles of black people. "I find that lots of kids consider the 'n' word to just be a slang term and not understand the weight of the history behind it and how it shouldn't be used by non-black people," said the 20-year-old from As Matuis.

"We can start by educating our friends and neighbors to not use harmful slurs as well as spread the news about these protests and find ways to help like signing petitions and donating where you can. Every little bit counts," she added.

Many people around the world have watched with growing unease at the civil unrest in the United States after the latest in a series of police killings of black men and women. Floyd died on May 25 in Minneapolis after a white police officer pressed his knee on Floyd's neck until he stopped breathing. The officer was fired and charged with murder.

Jan Reyes, 25, from Chalan Kanoa, said the current protests and unrest across the U.S. is not just a call to justice for Floyd but for every black life that has been taken away as result of not just police brutality but the per-

the actual graduation ceremony will press ahead in December.

"NMC has postponed its in-person graduation ceremony to December because we don't want to put students at risk by having large gatherings," said interim president Frankie Eliptico.

NMC will still be recognizing

resort project on Saipan considering the many lawsuits it is facing, and its problems meeting employees' payroll and even paying for Commonwealth Utilities Corp. electricity billings.

On CUC bills, Dotts said IPI paid CUC and when he called the workers' housing, he was told that power was already being restored. Dotts said he is not sure where the funding came from.

On the issue of the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network of the U.S. Treasury Department raising red flags about possible Bank Secrecy Act violations at the casino, Dotts said he cannot comment on it other than to say that he agrees with the Commonwealth Casino Commission executive director's statement that it's a very serious matter.

"FinCEN I can tell you is a complicated set of laws. Some of them are very technical. It's easy sometime to make a technical violation," he said.

In the case of a technical violation, Dotts said the regulatory authority usually either gives company a warning, or gives a fine. "They can also rise to a criminal level. If it arises to the criminal level of money laundering, it's a very serious matter. If it does happen, a company would be shut down," the lawyer pointed out.

Dotts said IPI hired last year a le-

vasive issue of systematic corruption and neglect.

"As a resident of the CNMI, the best thing to do is to be educated. Learn about the history and the relationship between the U.S. government and the African American people. This is a very sensitive issue and voicing out our opinions without ensuring we know and understand the history of this violence and what it means to be a black person in America will do nothing but add fuel to the fire," Reyes said. "Many older people in our community may not understand the cause of all the violence occurring in these protests and maybe that's where we should start. Understanding is the first step in order to effectively do our part in helping the Black Lives Matter movement."

Reyes added, "We as a community need to be aware of the power we all possess when we decide to unite and voice out issues pertaining to taking away basic human rights."

Alexa Saimon said people on Saipan are fully capable of protesting and standing in solidarity with their sisters and brothers in the U.S. mainland. "I think [that] if people are able, they shouldn't be afraid to go stand with that woman, Zoe [Travis]. But if they are unable, there are several hundreds of places they can donate to, to help the cause, and show their support for the Black Lives Matter movement," said 20-year-old from Kagman.

Travis is currently doing a one-

graduates through other means, like activities and a video production. "We are producing a video and other kinds of activities to commemorate their graduation, but the actual in-person ceremony will be in December," he added.

NMC initially scheduled the grad-

gal counsel from the U.S. mainland who specializes in FinCEN matters. "Only a handful of attorneys do FinCEN," he added.

As for his role as general counsel for IPI, Dotts said, "General counsel means anything that happens. An employee stealing something in the morning, there's an accident on the job site in the afternoon, the government wants to investigate. Anything that happens, you can call the attorney and address it." Dotts said he is going to try to do that for now until IPI gets more settled. "Just on a contract basis," he said, adding that he has to notify the Commonwealth Casino Commission to obtain its approval.

Dotts said attorney Kelley Butcher has left IPI effective last Friday, so IPI needs to replace her as an in-house counsel.

Dotts disclosed that attorney George Hasselback is taking over as counsel for IPI in some cases. He said Hasselback will handle the U.S.A. Fanter's defamation lawsuit and a recycling center's lawsuit. He said Hasselback will also handle part of the Pacific Rim Land Development LLC's lawsuit.

A longer version of this story is available at www.saipantribune.com

person Black Lives Matter protest at the Atkins Kroll intersection in Oleai. She is there every day this week from 8am to 9am and welcomes anyone to join her.

Rinisa Torres, 19, of Capital Hill, said that many people of the CNMI may claim that this is not our issue to fight for, and that we should keep it in the mainland. But she disagrees with that way of thinking. "Our ability to isolate ourselves from this issue is a privilege in itself and we as a whole should acknowledge that and utilize it any way we possibly can. The black community has had enough."

Though the Minneapolis is an ocean away, Torres said there is still plenty of work that can be done here, such as speaking out on social media, donating to freedom funds and memorial funds, or calling state representatives and police departments to demand justice for all of these lives lost.

"Take it upon yourselves to educate yourselves on the Black Lives Matter movement. Have conversations about anti-black sentiment in our community with your family members and friends. It's a hard conversation, but it must be heard. The best thing that we can do is to amplify black voices. Hear them, empathize, and fight for them. ...Stand with our black brothers and sisters because there will come a time when we have to fight for our lives, and they will be right there beside us. Their lives matter," she said. (*With AP*)

uation for May, but because of the COVID-19 pandemic, it has been pushed back.

Eliptico said NMC surveyed its students and majority of them wanted an in-person graduation ceremony. The students also supported the idea of postponing the event. He said that NMC will assess what the graduation will look like in December while

making sure that social distancing rules remain in place.

"Nothing can replace the feeling of being surrounded by family members and hundreds of people watching you walk across the stage and earn that degree. We don't want just to put it online because it is not the same. We want to make sure we honor the occasion," he said.

done is taken those errors out, and we are contacting taxpayers for the information that we need to release that information in our system, so that we can release the payment."

While Revenue & Taxation has yet to max out the \$47.1 million allotted for the payments, considering those that are still pending processing due to errors, Norita said it is looking like they would have to request for additional funding.

"That is the discussion that we will be having with the [Internal Revenue Service] soon. As far as clearing those pending payments, we are hoping to do that within the next couple of weeks," she added.

Those who have questions can contact Rev & Tax via email at stimulus@dlf.gov.mp, or by calling 664-1067, 664-1000, or 664-1019.

"We are trying our best to respond to these inquiries, we have the Division of Customs helping us answering phone calls to help alleviate the inquiries and so we are trying our best, and we just continue to ask for everyone's patience," she added.

what contractors and engineers call a "punch list," a stage in the process where contractors and engineers make sure that everything is in order.

Patrick Guerrero, the governor's authorized representative, stated that they will be installing the last few equipment this week. "The construction portion is a week delayed due to some changes and unforeseen circumstances that we couldn't meet the May 25 deadline," said Guerrero.

Guerrero added that a charter flight from California will be coming this week to deliver a bunch of medical equipment, beds, bedside monitors, etc.

"We still have a few days if we needed to get the facility ready, but it should be ready as the flight comes in this weekend with more medical equipment, beds, bedside monitors, and things of that sort," said Guerrero.

To date, the CNMI has 22 confirmed COVID-19 case, with 16 recoveries, two deaths, and four active cases.

COVID-19 in Guam

According to the Joint Information Center in Guam, two new cases of COVID-19 were reported to the Department of Public Health and Social Services on May 30 and 31.

One is a confirmed case that tested positive by polymerase chain reaction testing at the Guam Memorial Hospital and reported household contact to two confirmed cases. The second is a probable case that tested positive through serology testing at Diagnostic Laboratory Services.

To date, Guam has a total of 175 confirmed COVID-19 cases, with five deaths, 145 released from isolation, and 25 active cases.

ONE

From Page 1

Warren Villagomez, who chairs the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force, said during Gov. Ralph DLG Torres' press briefing yesterday that "they [CHCC, task force, and Torres] are ecstatic to "graduate" individuals who have tested positive for COVID-19 or individuals who are "persons under investigation."

"Recovery is our optimal goal, to make sure that we provide optimal care," said Villagomez. "...Doctors were able to determine the release of the two individuals and they are out in the community safely."

Villagomez assured that CHCC will be able to monitor the released patients through what's called the Sarah Alert System.

Torres said the CNMI can't claim yet that it is coronavirus-free "but we can claim that we definitely protect our staff, our private partners, our first responders, and more. They have enough personal protective equipment, ventilators, and more for nurses and doctors who are tirelessly working day in and day out to help protect the CNMI."

Torres noted that there are more than enough test kits for everyone in the CNMI, but there's more to come soon since they're ordering more. "With everyone's involvement, I believe that we're going to be moving forward in the right direction," he said.

Alternate Care Site

The Alternate Care Site that is currently under construction at the Kanoa Resort in Susupe is going through the last stages, which is

Torres: No local hires happening

By IVA MAURIN
iva_maurin@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

There are no local hires happening. Instead, the CNMI government is moving exist-

NMC to host virtual Start Smart event on June 4

Graduating high school seniors and their parents are invited to attend Northern Marianas College's "Start Smart" event, which will be held online through Zoom on Thursday, June 4, 2020, at 1pm, Chamorro Standard Time.

The annual Start Smart event aims to provide graduating students an opportunity to learn more about college life, NMC's admissions process,

ing employees funded locally to federal accounts.

This was clarified yesterday by Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, in response to rumors in social media saying new hires and

consultants are being hired for departments and that transfers are happening, despite the hundreds of government employees being furloughed.

"Any and all hires that has

been coming in, has been utilizing federal funds," Torres said. "What we've been doing since a few months ago is moving all, or as much government employees, using local funds to federal grant, whether it's 5%, all the way up to 100%, and then also looking at what federal funds do we have, and maximize hiring under those federal programs."

To help employees during the pandemic, some federal programs offered to advance payments of salaries and ex-

penditures, to help alleviate

plying for college or what college life is like," NMC interim president Frankie Eliptico said. "Families can also ask questions about how they can fund a college education through the different financial aid options that are available to CNMI residents."

Students who are interested in attending the start smart event can register by going to bit.ly/3cgx5ky. (PR)

ocean until June 6, from 2pm to 10pm at the following coordinates: 13°26'N/145°08'E, 13°42'N/144°36'E.

Marine vessels are advised to remain clear of the area by five nautical miles for the duration of the event and to monitor the U.S. Coast Guard broadcast Notice to Mariners for advisories.

The U.S. Navy will also conduct live fire training in Warning Area 517 on June 3-4, from 2pm to 10pm. Marine vessels are advised to remain clear of the area for the duration of the event and to monitor the U.S. Coast Guard broadcast Notice to Mariners for advisories.

The U.S. Navy will conduct training in Outer Apra Harbor on June 4-6 from midnight to 11:55pm. The public is advised to be aware of the training and requested to remain

clear of units in the area for the duration of this event.

The U.S. Navy will also conduct exercises in the vicinity of Outer Apra Harbor on June 4 from 9am to 3pm. The public is advised to be aware of the training and requested to remain clear of units in the area for the duration of this event.

The U.S. Navy will conduct live fire exercises in Warning Area 13 and Farallon de Medinilla on June 5-7, from 10am to 2am. Marine vessels are advised to remain clear 12 nautical miles around Farallon de Medinilla for the duration of this event.

These trainings support readiness and are critical to developing the skills needed to respond to operational missions throughout the region to ensure a stable, free, and open Indo-Pacific. (PR)



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A non-refundable payment of **One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00)** is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at DPW Technical Services Division required for each set.

There will be a **Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **June 8, 2020**, 9:00 a.m. local time at the Project Site, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All question regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **June 11, 2020** to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ JAMES A. ADA
SECRETARY, DPW

/S/ FRANCISCO C. AGUON
ACTING DIRECTOR, P&S

the effects of the crisis in the CNMI.

Last April, due to the negative economic effect of the COVID-19 pandemic in the CNMI, Torres advised the Office of Personnel Management to implement "extreme measures," which meant the termination of all excepted service employees, other than employees who are in federally-funded positions, and the furlough of some Civil Service employees for a year.

Shortly following the furloughs, the U.S. Department of Labor notified the CNMI



Torres

Department of Labor of the eligibility of CNMI government employees for unemployment assistance.

Government employees who have been terminated, furloughed, or have had their hours reduced, due to COVID-19, can apply for up to \$345 per week of Pandemic Unemployment Assistance, and the supplemental \$600 a week of Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation.

Last month, U.S. DOL approved the \$70.5 million initial disbursement for the PUA and FPUC for the CNMI.

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| Program Year/ IDIS No.: | Program: | Activity Name: | Subrecipient: | Approved Budget: | Proposed Reprogramming Amount: | Proposed Revised Project Budget: | Current IDIS Funded Amount: |
|----------------------------|----------|--|---|------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 2018/699 | CDBG | Purchase of Fire Pumper Trucks for the Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services | Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services | \$556,466.00 | (\$13,620.89) | \$542,845.11 | \$556,466.00 |
| | | Total Reprogrammed from Activities: | | | | | |
| 2018 | CDBG | Purchase of Fire High Pressure Pumps for the Department of Fire and Emergency Services | Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services | | \$13,620.89 | \$13,620.89 | N/A |
| | | Total Reprogrammed to Activities: | | | \$13,620.89 | | |

Our agency through its Citizen Participation Plan (CPP) that we publish a "Public Notice" on reprogramming of funds over \$50,001.00. Therefore, comments from the general public should be submitted to NMHC Central office located in Garapan, Saipan on or before June 8, 2020, no later than 4:30 p.m.. You may contact Ms. Zenie P. Mafnas, Deputy Corporate Director or Mr. Jacob Muna, Office Manager/Procurement Officer at (670)234-6866/9447.

/s/
Jesse S. Palacios
Corporate Director



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BID
CUC-IFB-20-016

Supply and Services for Installation & Commissioning of One Brand New Cummins Diesel Engine with a Capacity to Generate 2.0 MW

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified and experienced firms for the Equipment Supply and Services (Design, Engineering and Supervision - Installation, Testing, Commissioning, Training and Handover) of 1 complete new engine system. Bidders must note that new Cummins engine will replace Cummins engine no. 3 at the CUC Rota Power Plant in the island of Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Island.

The solicitation seeks responses from qualified ORIGINAL EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURERS (OEM's) or ORIGINAL EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURE'S AUTHORIZED DISTRIBUTOR from which CUC intends to select one Bidder and enter into a contract agreement for CUC's power supply requirements.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$200.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-bid Conference will be conducted at the CUC Rota Administration Office in Sinapalo, Rota on **June 4, 2020 at 10:00 AM (CHST)**. Immediately after the conference, a Site Visit to Power Plant No. 1 facility will be conducted. Prospective Bidders shall familiarize themselves with the site conditions prior to submitting their bid.

One (1) original and five (5) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUCIFB- 20-016" Supply and Services for Installation & Commissioning of One Brand New Cummins Diesel Engine with a Capacity to Generate 2.0 MW" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **June 22, 2020 at 10:00 AM (CHST)**. Submissions, in PDF, must also be emailed to the addresses as noted in the IFB. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total Bid price must accompany the Bid. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful Bidder. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Proposers are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

All Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Bidder due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid or supply under the contract. The IFB does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the bid under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All responses to this IFB should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the proponent awarded a contract. Successful proponents will be required to submit a copy of a valid CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, upon award of the contract. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page: <https://marianaslabor.net/>. The proponents shall be required to comply with all applicable CNMI and Federal Laws.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered Prospective Bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (CHST) on June 5, 2020** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Christie Sablan, Purchasing Technician, Senior via email address christie.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bidders for any reason and to waive any defects in said bid package, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLON
Purchasing Administrator

NMC looking at expanding medical program courses

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Prompted by the needs that arose from COVID-19, the Northern Marianas College is working on expanding its medical program beyond nursing.

In an interview with NMC interim president Frankie Eliptico, he said NMC is currently trying to determine how they will expand medical career-related programs in the CNMI "and how we're going to expand not just the nursing occupation, but other health careers. We're talking about radiology technicians, medical technicians, laboratory assistants, and other types of occupations that will be in higher demand as a result of COVID-19."

Eliptico said NMC is proud of its alumni for the amount of contribution that they have been making day in and day out to help "flatten the COVID-19 curve"—a term that refers to lowering the transmission rate of the infection.

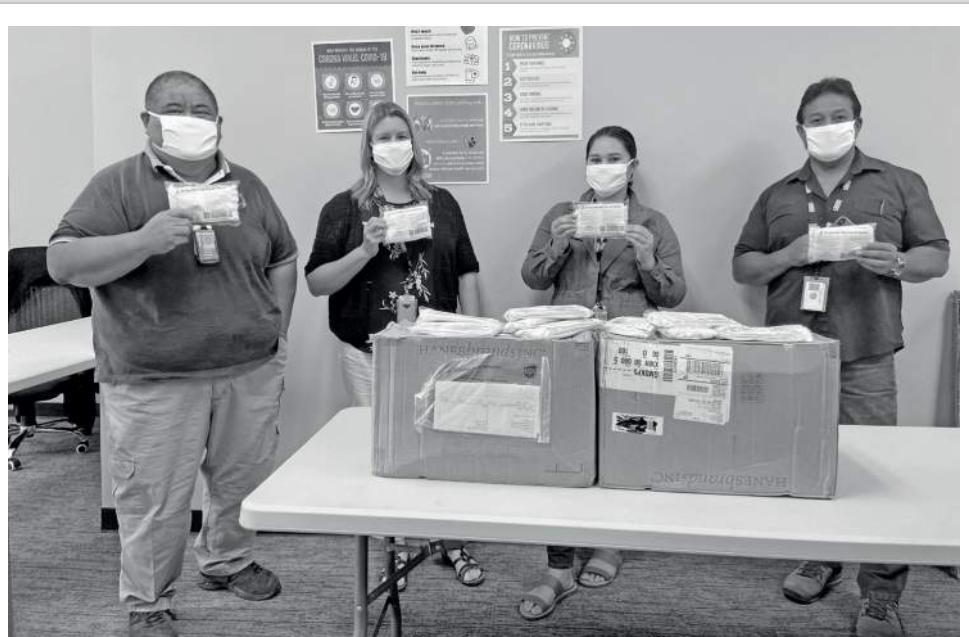
"We're proud of the NMC alumni for working all over this Commonwealth. ... There are front-liners everywhere—at the police department, the fire department, a lot of the nurses at the [Commonwealth Health Center] are NMC nursing graduates, so the care that a lot of the folks are receiving right now are from folks who received their training from here, NMC," he said.

Additionally, Eliptico said NMC is proud of the students

who continue to take classes and manage to work through the pandemic.

"Not just the nurses [but also] some of our other students. They're just like any other college student, they're working at the grocery stores, they're working at gas stations, they're working at many other places and they're working still. They're front-liners as well, so we're super proud of them," he said.

Eliptico said NMC appreciates and recognizes the hard work of these students and the courage they have to face this pandemic head on. "We try to give them props but I don't think that will ever do justice for the amount of work they're doing facing this pandemic head on face to face," he said.



PPE FOR CNMI CENSUS

The 2020 CNMI Census office has received 1,000 washable masks from the U.S. Census Bureau, which will also be sending other Personal Protective Equipment to the 2020 CNMI Census office such as additional washable masks, 2-liter bottles of sanitizers, and 3-oz. sanitizers. These PPE will be available to all CNMI Census employees. The 2020 CNMI Census office would like to thank the U.S. Census Bureau for providing PPE to the Census employees here in the Northern Mariana Islands, as they continue their vital work in the office and out on the field.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS



Lawmakers urge prioritized distribution of coronavirus resources to US territories

WASHINGTON, D.C.—

Natural Resources chair Raúl M. Grijalva and 12 bipartisan members of Congress recently sent a letter to Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar, urging him to consider the vulnerable economic and public health infrastructure in the U.S. territories when determining criteria for prioritizing the distribution of coronavirus resources.

The full letter was signed by committee vice chair Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) and Reps. Michael F.Q. San Nicolas (D-Guam), Stacey E. Plaskett (D-USVI), Jenniffer González-Coloén (R-P.R.), Aumua Amata C. Radewagen (R-A. Samoa), Nydia M. Velaézquez (D-NY), Darren Soto (D-Fla.), José E. Serrano (D-NY), Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez

(D-NY), Joaquin Castro (D-Texas), Jesués G. "Chuy" García (D-Ill.) and Juan Vargas (D-Calif.).

The lawmakers asked the Trump administration to take into account the unique "challenges and vulnerabilities" that the U.S. territories face, especially Puerto Rico, which has faced "an economic crisis, a series of recent natural disasters, and unequal access and treatment under federal programs."

U.S. territories have less developed public health infrastructure than most comparable mainland communities, and several have aging population and higher rates of hypertension, coronary heart disease, asthma, and incidences of other infectious diseases such as dengue, compared to U.S. averages.

The lawmakers wrote: "We urge HHS to consider the vulnerable economic and public health infrastructure in the territories when determining the criteria for prioritizing the distribution of COVID-19 resources to ensure these jurisdictions receive sufficient test kits, protective equipment and other lifesaving supplies to respond to this pandemic."

Grijalva, Sablan, and San Nicolas hosted a virtual roundtable on federal coronavirus response in U.S. territories in April, where they heard from witnesses about the lack of response from the Trump administration to combat coronavirus in Puerto Rico, Guam, the CNMI, the U.S. Virgin Islands and American Samoa.

See the complete letter at <https://bit.ly/3cGJsat>. (PR)

Typhoon Preparedness in the Marianas starts

June 1 marks the start of Typhoon Preparedness in the Marianas. The months of June through November are commonly known as typhoon season but that is misleading as typhoons can occur throughout the year in the western North Pacific. July through November is the time frame in which most tropical cyclones occur, with a peak in activity between September and November.

Tropical cyclones

A tropical cyclone is an all-inclusive term that is used to discuss tropical depressions, tropical storms, typhoons, and super typhoons. A tropical depression is the weakest with maximum sustained winds of less than 38 mph. A tropical storm is a more intense cyclone with maximum sustained winds of 39 to 73 mph. A typhoon has maximum sustained winds of 74 mph and greater, spread across 5 categories of intensity. A typhoon becomes a super typhoon when maximum sustained winds are 150 mph or greater.

The triple threat

Tropical cyclones are dangerous because they pose a triple threat: wind, waves, and water. The intensity of tropical cyclones is based on their wind speeds. As tropical cyclone winds increase, the likelihood for widespread damage increases. The second threat are large waves. Dangerous surf and storm surge accompanying cyclones can affect vulnerable coastal areas. Finally, torrential rains associated with

TYPHOON STRENGTH

The Joint Typhoon Warning Center and other U.S. meteorological organizations use the following to classify typhoon/hurricane categories based on maximum sustained wind speeds:

Category 1
Maximum sustained winds of 74 mph to 95 mph.

Category 2
Maximum sustained winds of 96 mph to 110 mph.

Category 3
Maximum sustained winds of 111 mph to 129 mph.

Category 4
Maximum sustained winds of 130 mph to 156 mph.

Category 5
Maximum sustained winds over 157 mph.

A typhoon with maximum sustained surface winds greater than or equal to 130 knots (about 149 mph), which is approximately a Category 5 typhoon, is considered a "super typhoon."

Source: Joint Typhoon Warning Center

tropical cyclones can produce flash flooding and mudslides—even with a tropical depression. Keep in mind, all these can happen well before or well after the closest point of approach.

Warning process

The National Weather Service issues tropical storm watches/warnings and typhoon watches/warnings when a tropical cyclone approaches an island. Watches and warnings are

based on the onset of damaging winds, 39 mph. A tropical storm/typhoon watch is issued when damaging winds are possible within 48 hours. A tropical storm/typhoon warning is issued when damaging winds are expected within 24 hours. Watches and warnings can be issued for a tropical depression if it is forecast to intensify into a tropical storm or typhoon by the time it reaches an island. Conditions of Readiness or "COR," are set by the governments of Guam and the CNMI and are closely related to NWS watches and warnings.

Preparedness

Preparedness is easier when there is no storm threat. Now is the time to prepare. Make sure your home and office preparedness plans and emergency kits are up to date.

Follow us on social media

Visit the following links for the latest information:

■ CNMI EOC State Warning Point Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/cnmieocswp/>

■ CNMI Office of the Governor Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/GovernorCNMI/> Homeland Security and Emergency Management also encourages residents to download HSEM's readyCNMI App available for free in the Apple Store or Google PlayStore to receive the latest weather updates and notifications. For more information, contact the CNMI EOC State Warning Point at 237-8000 or 664-8000. (PR)

Island Snapshots



MEMORIAL DAY

Government officials led by Gov. Ralph DLG Torres offer a wreath during the Memorial Day ceremony at the CNMI Veteran's Cemetery in Marpi last May 25, 2020.

KRIZEL TUAZON



CLASS OF 2020

Mount Carmel School's Class of 1990 donated and sponsored a banner for each graduate of the Class of 2020 and helped install them in the vicinity of Mount Carmel Cathedral last week, congratulating the students for graduating this year.

KRIZEL TUAZON



NEW BRANCH

PHI Pharmacy will be opening a new branch in Garapan this July. The new branch is located along the Kopa di Oru St., the road between the Horiguchi building and the NMI Museum, facing the Kristo Rai Parish church.

KRIZEL TUAZON



BEAUTIFIED PAVILIONS

Even as many people have taken to staying indoors to avoid the coronavirus pandemic, several private companies and organizations have adopted and repainted pavilions and bus stops in the CNMI, as shown in these examples, making them beautiful and ready when people will come out once again.

KRIZEL TUAZON

Opinion

Saipan Tribune

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EDITORIAL

Stop focusing on looting in Minneapolis. Be outraged that police keep killing black men



People loot a convenience store Friday, May 29, 2020, in Minneapolis.

There is anger on the streets in Minneapolis. And Los Angeles. And Columbus and Phoenix and Denver. It is deserved anger fed by the death of George Floyd, yet another unarmed black man killed as police arrested him.

Another. That's the key word.

The mature and reasoned response is, of course, to explore what went wrong on that Minneapolis street on Memorial Day. Why did the police officers responsible for this unnecessary use of force still have badges, given their history of previous complaints? Why did it take so long for authorities to arrest the officer filmed pinning Floyd to the ground with a knee on his neck? What can Minneapolis—or Los Angeles, or Ferguson, Mo., or New York City—do to improve relations between police and the communities they serve? Cue up the commission, bring in the experts, hold some hearings, let people vent for a bit and then, by golly, we'll have change.

That's the lie we tell ourselves with depressing regularity. The solutions we keep trotting out fail to address the real fault lines here. Police now often carry body cameras,

See STOP on Next Page



COVID-19 has also closed other people's houses

In 1826, Frederick Douglass, a young enslaved orphan, was shipped from a plantation on Maryland's Eastern Shore to a home in Baltimore. Upon crossing the threshold of the new place, his conception of the world, and of himself, changed forever. "I had been treated as a pig on the plantation," Douglass later wrote. "I was treated as a child now." Along with this magical new sense of his own humanity, Douglass soon learned a skill that became the foundation of his life: reading.

The transformation of Frederick Douglass from property to statesman is an extreme case. But for millions of kids, other people's houses contain new worlds, with the potential for new meaning and new lives. A friend's house is a learning experience unlike any available in school. It's a chance to examine your own life, and the way your family lives and relates to one another, in the light of a different model. It's also an experience all but foreclosed by the coronavirus lockdown, compounding the damage done by shuttered classrooms.

Alice Fothergill, a sociologist at the University of Vermont, co-authored a book about children whose lives were disrupted by Hurricane Katrina. In an email, she wrote:

In my research on families in crisis, we definitely saw that children and youth needed that interaction with other adults outside their families. Indeed, those other adults were crucial during Hurricane Katrina recovery—we saw them as a safety net for kids. Also, we found that families really relied on other families for informal support, resources, transportation, company, child care, etc. Many of those families are those you are talking about—the families of the kids' friends. We saw that, in the disaster aftermath, not having those other families nearby or available became an incredible challenge.

In some cases, the households of friends reinforce what kids learn at home. One study suggested that closely networked families "develop common norms for behavior that constrain children's actions, increase communication with one another about children's activities and whereabouts (with resulting benefits in terms of their own ability to monitor and supervise children) and develop shared norms for evaluating children's behavior."

Friend's houses can also be departures from the norms on display at home. What I valued from my own childhood was discovering what was different about other kids' houses and lives, and perhaps adopting some of it as my own. Matthew's house was packed with siblings yet it projected an aura of easy calm and confidence. How did that work? At Philip's house, I learned

By FRANCIS WILKINSON

Bloomberg View

Francis Wilkinson writes editorials on politics and U.S. domestic policy for Bloomberg View. He was executive editor of the Week. He was previously a national affairs writer for Rolling Stone, a communications consultant and a political media strategist.



you could grab a guitar and make your own music, which had never occurred to me before. Bill's older brothers had a record collection that has followed me through life—and their meticulousness in caring for their stuff made me wonder why I was so careless about mine.

Exposure to other families "can provide a different template for relationships," emailed psychologist Katherine Rosenblum of the University of Michigan. "The egocentrism of earlier years gives way to a sense that not all families are 'like mine' in their relational patterns, but also potentially in terms of culture, practices/beliefs etc."

Learning there is more than one way to do things is foundational. My friend Daniel Pink, an author of books on business and human behavior, recalled: "In my childhood (or at least the childhood that my memory has concocted) the revelations were always around food. Whoa ... their tuna salad tastes so different! They put mustard on that? They're allowed to drink Coke? Also, Jim Goodrich had a refrigerator that made ice in the door—which to 8-year-old was more amazing than space travel."

To a child, these are not trivial discoveries. After all, if their tuna salad tastes better, perhaps it's worth considering their religious or political beliefs, or examining more closely their interpersonal dynamics. Pluralism rests on a delicate platform of such minute observation and comprehension.

The pandemic will have devastating consequences for students who fall behind because they lack the structure and support they need to learn at home. For some of those same kids, and for others besides, closing a window onto the lives of others will be equally damaging. I can't remember much about the classrooms of my youth. But I vividly recall the lessons I learned in other people's houses.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Bankruptcy basics

COVID-19 put the economy in a chill so deep that even the Saipan sun could not thaw it. Businesses shuttered. People sheltered in place. And the flow of money froze.

The resulting hibernation ravaged businesses and employees alike—devastation that will continue to mount for many even as the lockdown slowly lifts. As a consequence, experts predict an explosion of bankruptcies, both personal and corporate, this year. And, indeed, we've seen the first wave with prominent retailers like J. Crew, Neiman Marcus, and J.C. Penney already filing for bankruptcy.

Because bankruptcy is on the rise, let's look at what it is, how it works, and who can benefit from it.

At its simplest, bankruptcy is a legal process for people and businesses that can't pay their debts. The goal of the process is to give debtors a fresh financial start while also treating creditors in a fair manner.

The most common trigger for bankruptcy is medical debt, which is the primary reason for about 60% of all personal bankruptcies, according to a Harvard University study. Other common reasons include job loss, divorce/separation, poor use of

credit, and unexpected expenses from surprise events like a typhoon or pandemic.

Why do we allow bankruptcies? Because it's good for the economy. We want people to innovate and take risks. But few people will start a business if they will be personally and permanently liable for the debts these ventures create. And the same for people who are saddled with debt. If you are a student with \$150,000 in student-loan debt, will you start a business with unpredictable revenue or take a job with an established company that provides a reliable salary?

The model case is Henry Ford. Today he's known as the man who created Ford Motor Co., one of the great companies of the 20th century. But Ford filed for bankruptcy twice before creating the Ford Motor Co. Without the bankruptcy system, the third time would not have been the charm for Ford or the millions of people who benefitted from his company.

Thus far, we've discussed bankruptcy as if it's just one thing, but there are actually several forms of bankruptcy. The most common three are Chapter 7, Chapter 11, and Chapter 13 with individuals primarily using Chapters 7 and 13 and businesses largely employing Chapters 7 and 11.

The most common form of bankruptcy is Chapter 7, also known as liquidation. It works well for people with few assets (items of value like cash, land, stocks, and so on) who primarily have unsecured debt (such as credit cards and medical bills).

Under this approach, a debtor files for bankruptcy. The court then issues an automatic stay that stops most debt-collection attempts. No more phone calls. No more wage garnishment. Even lawsuits pause. Thereafter, a court-appointed trustee will sell the debtor's non-exempt assets to pay off their creditors (the people they owe money to). Following this process, the court will normally erase any unsecured debts that remain.

While the Chapter 7 process may require a debtor to sell some of their stuff, it won't force them to sell everything. Certain assets are exempt.

Likewise, although Chapter 7 clears away most unsecured debts, it won't erase every debt. For example, it won't wipe out taxes, student loans, and other forms of secured debt.

The second most common type of bankruptcy is Chapter 13, also known as reorganization, which allows a person to catch up on their debt while keeping their stuff. It often works well for people who can pay some, but not all, of their debt.

FINE PRINT**By JORDAN SUNDELL**

Special to the Saipan Tribune



Jordan Sundell is a lawyer primarily practicing business, real estate, estate-planning, and asset-protection law. He formerly worked for the CNMI Supreme Court and Bridge Capital and is now general counsel for several real-estate companies, including JZ Group. His columns—focused mainly on real estate, small business, and estate planning—are published every other Tuesday. Be sure to like the Fine Print on Facebook!

Under this approach, a debtor files for bankruptcy. An automatic stay is issued. And then the debtor develops a court-approved payment plan to pay back all of their secured debt and a portion of their unsecured debt. At the end of the payment plan, which normally lasts three-to-five years, any remaining unsecured debt will disappear.

That leaves us with our third type of bankruptcy: Chapter 11 bankruptcy, which is a more complicated version of Chapter 13. It's popular with large businesses because it allows them to keep operating while paying off their debt. Indeed, if done right, customers may have no idea they are doing business with a company in the middle of a bankruptcy.

Under this approach, the debtor will file for bankruptcy. An automatic stay will be issued. And then the debtor will create a plan to pay their debt while operating the business (known as a reorganization plan). The debtor will then submit the plan for approval with both the court and their creditors. If everyone agrees, the reorganization plan will be implemented. If not, the debtor will go through the Chapter 7 process.

But a word of caution: While bankruptcy may sound like a wizardly way to wish away debt, there's nothing magical about the experience. And it leaves scars on your credit report for years to come. So, before taking the plunge, do your homework and speak with an experienced attorney.

This column is for informational purposes only and is not intended to be taken as legal advice. For your specific case, consult a lawyer.

D.R.E.A.M.S.

LITERARY NOOK

By JOEY 'PEPE' BATBON CONNOLLY

Special to the Saipan Tribune



Joey "Pepe Batbon" Connolly is a retired teacher and has been named a poet laureate of Tinian. He has taught English in CNMI public schools for the past 30 years. He has also taught in Alaska, New Orleans, and Las Vegas.

"No wonder stars are winking
No wonder heaven mocks
At men who cease from drinking
Good booze because of clocks"

—Oliver St. John Gogarty, 1878 -1957

Dream Drunkard Dream

"Last call," bartenders all over often say customers drink up and order a few more spending much of their hard-earned pay then buy more booze going out the door panic hit on the way home when I thought drunk as I may be at home there is no booze stumbling into a mom & pop store I bought now I can drink to oblivion if I so choose hopefully next time you pass out when drunk in a comfortable place or pleasant location whether a couch, lounge chair, bed or bunk make sure you take advantage of the situation then dream drunkard dream and get lost in it ascend descend befriend as you lose mind control all night long for an hour or minute by minute your brain pan may release your tortured soul you may sail tranquil seas climb mountains high find friends at the bottom of the Mariana Trench float beyond the farthest stars visible in the sky hit a World Series homerun or sit on the bench make love to and marry a two headed manatee discover magnetic Martians eating iron ore earth find yourself sloshing around in a whiskey sea rolling over in a grave laughing at a hyena's mirth no delirium tremens for you tonight is a circus acrobats drop ice cream cones into your mouth you breeze by a carnival barker trying to jerk us dream drunkard dream North East West South.

STOP

From Page 8

undergo implicit bias training and embrace community policing strategies aimed at bridging the divide. We keep looking for the technology or training that can be bought and implemented to end police brutality, and there have been some improvements, particularly in cities where police departments have restricted use of force in making arrests. But progress is not victory.

And this is not a technology problem, or something that can be ended with some policy tinkering. It is a function of deep structural racism that we as a nation have proved to be incapable of exorcising.

Los Angeles burned in 1965 when a white California Highway Patrol officer pulled over a black motorist, starting a cascade of events that quickly released a community's pent-up rage and frustration over police conduct. Detroit burned in 1967 after a police raid on an after-hours bar filled with African Americans similarly breached a dam holding back years of anger over police violence against black neighborhoods. Newark, N.J., burned that year too, a single arrest and beating of a black man unleashing years of community frustration. These upheavals reflected years of rising anger in African American neighborhoods over the conditions of their existence and the excesses of police departments that, as the motto says, were there to protect and to serve. Then came the 1991 police beating of Rodney King, all the proof Los Angeles needed that history does repeat itself.

And no, police violence does not justify the rampages that erupted in Minneapolis. But as the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.

pointed out more than a half-century ago, "a riot is the language of the unheard." To focus on the damage and looting misses the point. Were it not for the killing of Floyd, and the history of police behavior, there would have been no protests.

According to one analysis, unarmed black Americans today are five times more likely to be killed by police than unarmed white Americans. We can blame some of that on over-policing, itself often an expression of unacknowledged bias. But the threat comes not just from people with badges. It crops up in daily life in the most mundane ways: A white woman calling New York City police on a black man out bird-watching who had the gall to ask her to leash her dog. A white man—again in Minneapolis—calling security when four black men rejected his demand for identification proving that they had permission to use the gym in a building where they all worked. A Starbucks manager calling police in Philadelphia to arrest two black men who were waiting to meet a potential business partner.

That's not the police sparking a racially framed encounter; it is white Americans surfacing the structural racism that, in its worst excesses, ends with the deaths of black Americans. Trayvon Martin. Ahmaud Arbery. Their killings did not involve police.

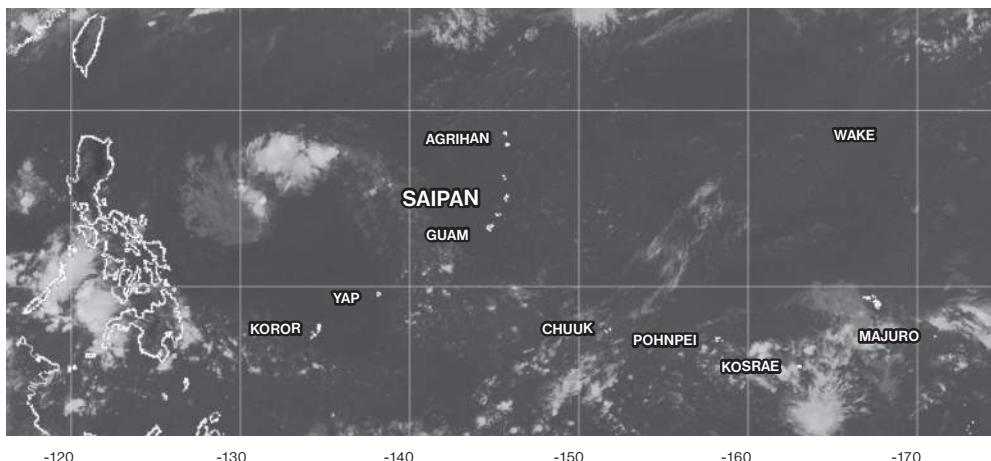
Yet it is in the intersection of structural racism and the police—the people whom we empower and arm to enforce laws—where such violence resonates with such ferocity. Floyd's death, as Minneapolis City Councilwoman Andrea Jenkins said, "was a symbol for a knee on the neck of black America." That knee has been there for an unconscionably long time. Too long.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

| TODAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|--|--|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| | | | | |
| Partly cloudy with isolated light showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph. | Partly cloudy with isolated light showers. | Partly cloudy with isolated light showers. | Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. | Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. |
| 90° | 78° | 89° | 78° | 89° |
| 89° | 79° | 89° | 79° | 89° |
| 79° | 89° | 79° | 89° | 79° |

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 6:11 AM, MONDAY, JUNE 1, 2020

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Mostly clear skies with spotty showers and gentle to moderate trade winds prevail across the Marianas this morning. Buoys show seas between 2 and 5 feet.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

GOVERNMENT RESOURCE LISTING PAGE 1

MAY 21, 2020, 11:30 AM



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

- **Cashier & Customer Service**
- Monday - Friday (Closed on Holidays)
- 7:30 AM - 3:00 PM
- Tel: (670) 664-4282

Pay bills online at www.cucgov.org, via phone by calling toll free Tel: 1-855-729-2282, or at any Bank of Guam, Bank of Saipan, or Bank of Hawaii Branch.



CNMI State Medicaid Agency

- **Eligibility Office & Accounting / Claims**
- Monday - Friday
- 7:30 AM - 4:30 PM
- Tel: (670) 664-4880/4882

Still accepting applications and supporting documents via drop-box at Medicaid Office. Medicaid application & renewal / redetermination forms must be original. Applications/forms available for pick up next to the drop-box or online at: www.medicaid.cnmi.mp



Department of Land and Natural Resources

- **Division of Land Registration**
- Monday - Thursday
- 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM
- Tel: (670) 322-9987
- **Division of Agriculture**
- Monday - Thursday
- 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM
- Tel: (670) 256-3320 / 3321
- **Division of Fish & Wildlife**
- Monday - Thursday
- 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM
- Tel: (670) 664-6000



Office of the Attorney General

- **Civil & Criminal Divisions**
- Monday - Friday
- 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM
- Tel: (670) 237-7500 / 7600



Department of Public Works

- **Administrative Services Division**
- Monday - Thursday
- 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM
- Tel: (670) 235-9570 / 5818
- **Building Safety Code Division**
- Monday - Thursday
- 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM
- Tel: (670) 234-2726 / 2296
- **Technical Services Division**
- Monday - Thursday
- 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM
- Tel: (670) 234-9828 / 9838
- **Highway Branch**
- Monday - Friday
- 7:30 AM - 4:30 PM
- **Energy Division**
- Monday - Friday
- 7:30 AM - 4:30 PM
- Tel: (670) 664-4480 / 4481
- **Roads and Grounds Division**
- Monday - Friday
- 7:30 AM - 4:30 PM
- Tel: (670) 322-9498
- **Solid Waste Management Division**
- **Lower Base Transfer Station & Marpi Landfill**
- Open all week except Wednesday & Sunday
- 7:30 AM - 1:00 PM
- Tel: (670) 322-2745 (Lower Base)
- (670) 322-2761 (Marpi Landfill)
- **CNMI Public Assistance Office**
- Available via phone or email only:
- Mondays - Fridays
- 7:30 AM - 4:30 PM
- Tel: (670) 664-2411
- Email: info@pa.gov.mp



Office of the Public Defender

- Monday - Friday
- 9:00 AM - 3:30 PM
- Tel: (670) 234-6503

FLIGHT SCHEDULE

| DEPARTURES | | | | ARRIVALS | |
|--|---------------|-----------|----------------|-------------------|------------|
| SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM) | | | | GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN | |
| UA117 | 9:15am | 9:55am | 1, 4, 6 | UA174 | 7:30am |
| LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. (The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.) | | | | | |
| MICRONESIA | | | | AROUND THE GLOBE | |
| Guam and Rota | Thunderstorms | 86° / 79° | Auckland | Partly cloudy | 62 / 52 °F |
| Palau | Thunderstorms | 87° / 80° | Beijing | Thunderstorms | 91 / 75 °F |
| Yap | Thunderstorms | 87° / 80° | Hong Kong | Thunderstorms | 85 / 81 °F |
| Chuuk | Thunderstorms | 87° / 80° | Honolulu | Partly cloudy | 84 / 73 °F |
| Pohnpei | Partly Cloudy | 86° / 80° | London | Partly cloudy | 75 / 55 °F |
| Kosrae | Thunderstorms | 87° / 80° | Los Angeles | Partly cloudy | 72 / 61 °F |
| Majuro | Thunderstorms | 85° / 80° | Manila | Thunderstorms | 89 / 79 °F |
| | | | Melbourne | Partly cloudy | 57 / 40 °F |
| | | | Miami | Partly cloudy | 86 / 78 °F |
| | | | New York | Partly cloudy | 71 / 60 °F |
| | | | Osaka | Sunny | 82 / 70 °F |
| | | | Paris | Partly cloudy | 81 / 61 °F |
| | | | Pusan | Partly cloudy | 84 / 58 °F |
| | | | Rome | Sunny | 84 / 59 °F |
| | | | Salem | Partly cloudy | 73 / 55 °F |
| | | | San Francisco | Partly cloudy | 64 / 55 °F |
| | | | Seoul | Thunderstorms | 79 / 56 °F |
| | | | Tokyo | Partly cloudy | 76 / 66 °F |
| | | | Washington, DC | Partly cloudy | 80 / 60 °F |

| DAY | SUNRISE | SUNSET |
|-----------|---------|---------|
| Today | 5:45 AM | 6:44 PM |
| Wednesday | 5:45 AM | 6:43 PM |
| Thursday | 5:45 AM | 6:44 PM |
| Friday | 5:45 AM | 6:45 PM |
| Saturday | 5:45 AM | 6:45 PM |

| DAY | MOONRISE | MOONSET | MOONRISE |
|-----------|----------|---------|----------|
| Today | - | 2:37 AM | 3:11 PM |
| Wednesday | - | 3:22 AM | 4:10 PM |
| Thursday | - | 4:09 AM | 5:11 PM |
| Friday | - | 4:59 AM | 6:13 PM |
| Saturday | - | 5:52 AM | 7:16 PM |

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COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

GOVERNMENT RESOURCE LISTING PAGE 2

MAY 21, 2020, 11:30 AM



Department of Finance

- **Division of Revenue & Taxation**
- Monday - Friday
- 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM
- Tel: (670) 664-1000

ALL OTHER DIVISIONS (Except Customs)

- Monday - Thursday
- 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Division of Customs Services

- **Airport:** OPEN DAILY
- 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
- **Seaport:** Monday - Friday
- 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
- **Chalan Kanoa Post Office:**
- Monday - Friday 7:30 AM - 4:30 PM
- Saturday 7:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Department of Public Lands

- **Cashier accepting payments:**
- Monday - Friday, 8:30 AM - 3:30 PM
- **Available via phone or email:**
- Monday - Friday, 7:30 AM - 4:30 PM
- Tel: (670) 234-3751/52/53/54
- For appointments call (670) 234-3751 or email dpl@dpl.gov.mp



Saipan Zoning Office

- **Available via phone ONLY:**
- Monday - Thursday
- 7:30 AM - 11:30 AM
- Tel: (670) 234-9661 / 9662 / 9663
- Email: geri.delacruz@zoning.gov.mp</

Business

Grotto Garlic Restaurant reemerges after nearly 2 months

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

A restaurant named after one of the best dive spots in the world and specializes in garlic steak reopened for dine-in customers last week.

Grotto Garlic Restaurant finally reopened after nearly two months of being closed due to COVID-19 concerns. Initially, the restaurant reopened for take-out only, but



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Grotto Garlic Restaurant's famous garlic steak.

For more information or for reservations, call 233-2298 or on their Facebook page.



Grotto Garlic Restaurant is named after the Saipan tourist hotspot of the Blue Grotto and is located along Beach Road in Garapan.

after the government relaxed its social distancing measures, it welcomed dine-in guests starting last May 18, albeit occupancy is limited to 25% of its original 36-seat capacity.

"Each table has a distance of 6 feet from the next table. We also keep clean and sanitize our entrance and restroom areas," said restaurant manager Yoshi Suzuki.

Like other local businesses, the COVID-19 pandemic has had a very negative impact on Grotto Garlic Restaurant's operations. "We have [gotten] very big impact and big decline [in] revenue due to the coronavirus," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

Grotto Garlic Restaurant also had to furlough one employee.

To serve customers in this

time of COVID-19, Suzuki has required staff to always use masks and gloves. Customers also need to wear masks and enter and exit through designated entrance and exit doors. Hand sanitizers are also available at the entrance of the restaurant.

Suzuki said the Grotto Garlic Restaurant was established in 1995 by a Japanese diving instructor who fell in love with the island's scenic dive spots, particularly the Marpi dive spot that the restaurant is named after.

"The main theme of our restaurant is the Blue Grotto so Saipan's underwater videos are constantly showing on



Grotto Garlic Restaurant's pizza.

Infected workers, parts shortages slow auto factory restarts

DETROIT (AP)—The U.S. auto industry's coronavirus comeback plan was pretty simple: restart factories gradually and push out trucks and other vehicles for waiting buyers in states left largely untouched by the virus outbreak.

Yet the return from a two-month production shutdown hasn't gone quite according to plan. For some automakers, full production has been delayed, or it's been herky-herky, with production lines stopping and starting due to infected workers or parts shortages from Mexico and elsewhere.

"There's a lot that can go wrong in bringing people back into the plants to try to build very complicated assemblies," said Kristin Dziczek, vice president of industry and labor at the Center for Automotive Research, an industry think tank.

Most automakers closed factories in mid-to-late March

when workers began to get sick as the novel coronavirus spread. The factories started to reopen on one or two shifts in mid-May as state stay-home restrictions eased, with automakers touting safety precautions that include checking workers' temperatures, certification by workers that they don't have symptoms, social distancing, time between shifts and plastic barriers where possible to keep workers apart.

Still, some workers got COVID-19, although it's not known where they were infected. In some cases they still came to work, forcing companies to close plants temporarily for cleaning. In at least one case, a worker at a seat-making plant near Chicago got the virus, forcing a shutdown and cutting off parts. General Motors had to delay adding shifts at truck plants because the Mexican government wouldn't allow full parts factory restarts until June 1.

None of the automakers would give exact numbers of workers who have become ill since plants were restarted. The United Auto Workers union said Ford and GM have had at least a half-dozen cases, while Fiat Chrysler has had five. At least 25 UAW members employed by the Detroit Three have died from the virus this year, but it's not clear where they caught it.

Protests force Target, CVS and Walmart to close some stores

U.S. retailers large and small have closed some of their stores across the country because of disruptions caused by the widespread street protests over the police killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis.

Target, CVS, Apple and Walmart all said Sunday that they had temporarily closed or limited hours at some locations for safety reasons. In some places, their stores have been burned, broken into or looted as protests turned violent.

Amazon said Sunday that it has adjusted its routes and suspended deliveries to keep its drivers safe in some cities, including Chicago, Los Angeles, Seattle and Minneapolis.

A spokeswoman, Kelly Cheeseman, said Amazon is also abiding by local curfews that have required people to remain off streets after a specified hour at night.

Small businesses, too, are surveying the damage or trying to determine how to operate amid the chaos. Ammar Aref, who owns a corner grocery

store in Minneapolis blocks from where Floyd was killed, said he has stayed opened every day, but he doesn't know how much stock to order and his employees don't want to come to work. He boards up his windows every night.

Target, which is based in Minneapolis, said it has closed six stores for an extended period. Some of the worst damage was seen at its Lake Street store near where Floyd was killed. Footage showed people walking away with merchandise as smoke filled the store.

The company said Sunday it was boarding up the store. Target said it hopes to reopen the Lake Street store by the end of this year. Another

BankGuam Holding Co. declares dividends

HAGATNA, GUAM—BankGuam Holding Company (BKGMF) announced that its Board of Directors declared a quarterly cash dividend of \$0.10 per share for the holders of its common stock and a dividend payment to the holders of record as of June 15, 2020. (PR)

three of our large flat-screen TVs (two 50" and one 32"). Customers could enjoy our food and our specific atmosphere," he said.

Aside from the mouth-watering garlic steak (Certified Angus Beef rib-eye), Grotto Garlic Restaurant is also known for its deep fried chicken with sweet chili sauce and various fusion pizzas, according to Suzuki.

Its full menu pre-COVID-19 is available.

Grotto Garlic Restaurant is located along Beach Road in Garapan. It's open Tuesday-Sunday, from 5pm to 9pm (last order 8:30pm). For more information or for reservations, call 233-2298 or on their Facebook page.

Nation

Unrest overshadows peaceful US protests for another night

WASHINGTON (AP)—

Tens of thousands of protesters took to the streets across America again Sunday, with peaceful demonstrations against police killings of black people overshadowed by unrest that quickly ravaged parts of cities from Pennsylvania to California.

City and state officials had deployed thousands of National Guard soldiers, enacted strict curfews and shut down mass transit systems, but that did little to stop many cities from again erupting into unrest.

Protesters in Philadelphia hurled rocks and Molotov cocktails at police, officials said, while masked crowds broke into upscale stores in a San Francisco suburb, fleeing with bags of merchandise. In Minneapolis, a truck driver drove into a massive crowd of demonstrators nearly a week after the death of George Floyd, a black man who pleaded for air as an officer pressed a knee into his neck.

Tensions mounted outside the White House, where police fired tear gas and stun grenades into a crowd of more than 1,000 chanting protesters across the street in Lafayette Park. They scattered, piling up road signs and plastic barriers to light a raging fire in a street. Some pulled an Ameri-



Demonstrators march along an interstate highway Sunday, May 31, 2020, in Minneapolis. AP

can flag from a nearby building and threw it into the blaze. Others added tree branches. A cinder block building housing bathrooms and a maintenance office in the park was engulfed in flames.

The entire Washington, D.C., National Guard—roughly 1,700 soldiers—was being called in to help control the protests, accord-

ing to two Defense Department officials who insisted on anonymity because they were not authorized to publicly discuss the matter.

As the protests grew, President Donald Trump retweeted conservative commentator Buck Sexton who called for “overwhelming force” against violent demonstrators.

At least 4,100 people have

been arrested over days of protests, according to a tally compiled by The Associated Press. Arrests ranged from looting and blocking highways to breaking curfew.

In Salt Lake City, a leading anti-police brutality activist condemned the destruction of property but said broken buildings shouldn’t be mourned on the same level as black men like Floyd.

“Maybe this country will get the memo that we are sick of police murdering unarmed black men,” said Lex Scott, founder of Black Lives Matter Utah. “Maybe the next time a white police officer decides to pull the trigger, he will picture cities burning.”

Yet thousands still marched peacefully, with some also calling for an end to the fires, vandalism and theft, saying it

Trump took shelter in White House bunker as protests raged

WASHINGTON (AP)—Secret Service agents rushed President Donald Trump to a White House bunker on Friday night as hundreds of protesters gathered outside the executive mansion, some of them throwing rocks and tugging at police barricades.

Trump spent nearly an hour in the bunker, which was designed for use in emergencies like terrorist attacks, according to a Republican close to the White House who was not authorized to publicly discuss private matters and spoke on condition of anonymity. The account was confirmed by an administration official who also spoke on condition of anonymity.

The abrupt decision by the agents underscored the rattled mood inside the White House, where the chants from protesters in Lafayette Park could be heard all weekend and Secret Service agents and law enforcement officers struggled to contain the crowds.

Friday’s protests were triggered by the death of George Floyd, a black man who died after he was pinned at the neck by a white Minneapolis police officer. The demonstrations in

Washington turned violent and appeared to catch officers by surprise. They sparked one of the highest alerts on the White House complex since the Sept. 11 attacks in 2001.

“The White House does not comment on security protocols and decisions,” said White House spokesman Judd Deere. The Secret Service said it does not discuss the means and methods of its protective operations. The president’s move to the bunker was first reported by The New York Times.

The president and his family have been shaken by the size and venom of the crowds, according to the Republican. It was not immediately clear if first lady Melania Trump and the couple’s 14-year-old son, Barron, joined the president in the bunker. Secret Service protocol would have called for all those under the agency’s protection to be in the underground shelter.

Trump has told advisers he worries about his safety, while both privately and publicly praising the work of the Secret Service.

Trump traveled to Florida on Saturday to view the first manned space launch from the

U.S. in nearly a decade. He returned to a White House under virtual siege, with protesters — some violent — gathered just a few hundred yards away through much of the night.

Demonstrators returned Sunday afternoon, facing off against police at Lafayette Park into the evening.

Trump continued his effort to project strength, using a series of inflammatory tweets and delivering partisan attacks during a time of national crisis.

As cities burned night after night and images of violence dominated television coverage, Trump’s advisers discussed the prospect of an Oval Office address in an attempt to ease tensions. The notion was quickly scrapped for lack of policy proposals and the president’s own seeming disinterest in delivering a message of unity.

Trump did not appear in public on Sunday. Instead, a White House official who was not authorized to discuss the plans ahead of time said Trump was expected in the coming days to draw distinctions between the legitimate anger of peaceful protesters and the unacceptable actions of violent agitators.

SpaceX's historic encore: Astronauts arrive at space station

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP)

SpaceX delivered two astronauts to the International Space Station for NASA on Sunday, following up a historic liftoff with an equally smooth docking in yet another first for Elon Musk’s company.

With test pilots Doug Hurley and Bob Behnken poised to take over manual control if necessary, the SpaceX Dragon capsule pulled up to the station and docked automatically, no assistance needed. The hatches swung open a few hours later, and the two Dragon riders floated into the orbiting lab and embraced the three station residents.

Unlike the SpaceX and NASA flight control rooms, where everyone was spaced well apart, there was no social distancing or masks needed in orbit since the new arrivals had been in quarantine for many weeks.

“The whole world saw this mission, and we are so, so proud of everything you have done for our country and, in fact, to inspire the world,”

NASA Administrator Jim Bridenstine said in a call from Mission Control in Houston.

Hurley credited SpaceX and added, “It’s great to get the United States back in the crewed launch business.”

It was the first time a privately built and owned spacecraft carried astronauts to the space station in its more than 20 years of existence. NASA considers this the opening volley in a business revolution encircling Earth and eventually stretching to the moon and Mars.

“NASA is not going to purchase, own and operate rockets and capsules the way we used to,” Bridenstine said. “We’re going to partner with commercial industry.”

The docking occurred barely 19 hours after a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket blasted off Saturday afternoon from Kennedy Space Center, the nation’s first astronaut launch

to orbit from home soil in nearly a decade and drawing a Washington delegation led by President Donald Trump. NASA said peak viewership

online hit 10 million.

Despite the coronavirus pandemic, thousands jammed surrounding beaches, bridges and towns as SpaceX ended a nine-year launch drought for NASA.

The achievement, years in the making, is expected to drive down launch costs so more people might be able to afford a ticket to space in the coming years.

Behnken told the welcoming committee at NASA’s Johnson Space Center that the Dragon was “a slick vehicle” and said he was surprised at how rough the ride was on the latter part of ascent, compared with the space shuttle, which he and Hurley rode twice.

“Dragon was huffing and puffing all the way into orbit,” he said.

Two Texas members of Congress at Johnson for the docking—Sen. Ted Cruz and Rep. Brian Babin—said the flight offered inspiration and hope during a particularly tough time of protests and pandemic.

Asia

India reports 8K new cases

NEW DELHI (AP)—India reported more than 8,000 new cases of the coronavirus in a single day, another record high that topped the deadliest week in the country.

Confirmed infections have risen to 182,143, with 5,164 fatalities, including 193 in the last 24 hours, the Health Ministry said Sunday.

Overall, more than 60% of the virus fatalities have been reported from only two states—Maharashtra, the financial hub, and Gujarat, the home state of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The new cases are largely concentrated in six Indian states, including the capital New Delhi.

Public health experts have criticized the Modi government's handling of the outbreak. A joint statement by the Indian Public Health Association, Indian Association of Preventive and Social Medicine and Indian Association of Epidemiologists, which was sent to Modi's office on May 25, said it was "unrealistic" to eliminate the virus at a time when "community transmission is already well-established."

India has denied of any community transmission even though new cases have continued to mount significantly.

The health experts said that the infections were rising exponentially despite the "draconian lockdown," which began March 25.

The restrictions have slowly

In virus-hit South Korea, AI monitors lonely elders

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—In a cramped office in eastern Seoul, Hwang Seung-won points a remote control toward a huge NASA-like overhead screen stretching across one of the walls.

With each flick of the control, a colorful array of pie charts, graphs and maps reveals the search habits of thousands of South Korean senior citizens being monitored by voice-enabled "smart" speakers, an experimental remote care service the company says is increasingly needed during the coronavirus crisis.

"We closely monitor for signs of danger, whether they are more frequently using search words that indicate rising states of loneliness or insecurity," said Hwang, director of a social enterprise that handles SK Telecom's services. Trigger words lead to a recommendation for a visit by public health officials.

As South Korea's government pushes to allow businesses to access vast amounts



AP Police officials patrol in a lane during lockdown at the Dharavi slum, a COVID-19 hotspot in Mumbai, India, Sunday, May 31, 2020.

been relaxed, with the government announcing Saturday a phased "Unlock 1" plan from June onwards that allows more economic activities. The restrictions in so-called containment zones—areas that have been isolated due to the outbreaks—will remain through June 30.

Modi, who addressed the nation through his monthly radio program on Sunday, said India was faring better than other countries.

India has a fatality rate of 2.8%.

There are concerns that the virus may be spreading through India's villages as millions of jobless migrant workers return home from cities during the lockdown. Experts warn that the pandemic is yet to peak in India.

In other developments in the Asia-Pacific region:

■ 27 NEW CASES IN SOUTH KOREA:

KOREA: South Korea on Sunday reported 27 new cases of the coronavirus, including 21

from the densely populated Seoul metropolitan area, where officials are scrambling to stem transmissions linked to clubgoers and warehouse workers. The figures announced by South Korea's Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on brought national totals to 11,468 cases and 270 deaths. Twelve of the new cases were international arrivals. South Korea was reporting about 500 new cases each day in early March but seemed to stabilize the outbreak with aggressive tracking and tracing, which allowed authorities to ease social distancing guidelines. A rise in infections in the greater capital area has caused alarm as millions of children have begun returning to school. KCDC said more than 100 infections were linked to workers or visitors at a warehouse of local e-commerce giant Coupang, which has seen orders spike during the epidemic.

Demonstrators then marched to the U.S. Embassy, where a long line of officers surrounded the building. Several hundred milled around in the street and waved placards.

Protesters in Denmark also converged on the U.S. Embassy on Sunday. Participants carried placards with messages such as "Stop Killing Black People."

In countries with authoritarian governments, state-controlled media have been highlighting the chaos and violence of the U.S. demonstrations, in part to undermine American officials' criticism of their own nations.

In China, the protests are being viewed through the

World

World alarmed by violence in US

LONDON (AP)—

Nations around the world have watched in horror at the civil unrest in the United States following the death of George Floyd, a black man who died after a white police officer pressed his knee on his neck until he stopped breathing.

Racism-tinted events no longer startle even America's closest allies, though many have watched coverage of the often-violent protests with growing unease. Burning cars and riot police in the U.S. featured on newspaper front pages around the globe Sunday—bumping news of the COVID-19 pandemic to second-tier status in some places.

Floyd's death on May 25 in Minneapolis was the latest in a series of deaths of black men and women at the hands of police in the U.S.

Thousands gathered in central London on Sunday to offer support for American demonstrators. Chanting "No justice! No peace!" and waving placards with the words "How many more?" at Trafalgar Square, the protesters ignored U.K. government rules banning crowds because of the pandemic. Police didn't stop them.

Demonstrators then marched to the U.S. Embassy, where a long line of officers surrounded the building. Several hundred milled around in the street and waved placards.

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In China, the protests are being viewed through the

Israeli defense minister apologizes for Palestinian's death

JERUSALEM (AP)—Israel's defense minister apologized on Sunday for the Israeli police's deadly shooting of an unarmed Palestinian man who was autistic.

The shooting of Iyad Halak, 32, in Jerusalem's Old City on Saturday, drew broad condemnations and revived complaints alleging excessive force by Israeli security forces.

Benny Gantz, who is also Israel's "alternate" prime minister under a power-sharing deal, made the remarks at the weekly meeting of the Israeli Cabinet. He sat near Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who made no mention of the incident in his opening remarks.

"We are really sorry about the incident in which Iyad

The U.S. Embassy in Berlin was the scene of protests on Saturday under the motto: "Justice for George Floyd." Several hundred more people took to the streets Sunday in the capital's Kreuzberg area, carrying signs with slogans like "Silence is Violence," "Hold Cops Accountable," and "Who Do You Call When Police Murder?" No incidents were reported.

Germany's top-selling Bild newspaper on Sunday carried the sensational headline "This killer-cop set America ablaze" with an arrow pointing to a photo of now-fired police officer Derek Chauvin, who has been charged with third-degree murder in Floyd's death, with his knee on Floyd's neck. The newspaper's story reported "scenes like out of a civil war."

In Italy, the Corriere della Sera newspaper's senior U.S. correspondent Massimo Gaggi wrote that the reaction to Floyd's killing was "different" than previous cases of black Americans killed by police and the ensuing violence.

"There are exasperated black movements that no longer preach nonviolent resistance," Gaggi wrote, noting the Minnesota governor's warning that "anarchist and white supremacy groups are trying to fuel the chaos."

In countries with authoritarian governments, state-controlled media have been highlighting the chaos and violence of the U.S. demonstrations, in part to undermine American officials' criticism of their own nations.

"This incident is far from the first in a series of lawless conduct and unjustified violence from U.S. law enforcement," the Russian Foreign Ministry said in a statement. "American police commit such high-profile crimes all too often."

Halak was shot to death and we share in the family's grief," Gantz said. "I am sure this subject will be investigated swiftly and conclusions will be reached."

Halak's relatives said he had autism and was heading to a school for students with special needs where he studied each day when he was shot.

In a statement, Israeli police said they spotted a suspect "with a suspicious object that looked like a pistol." When he failed to obey orders to stop, officers opened fire, the statement said. Police spokesman Micky Rosenfeld later said no weapon was found.

Israeli media reported the officers involved were questioned after the incident as

prism of U.S. government criticism of China's crackdown on anti-government protests in Hong Kong.

Hu Xijin, the editor of the state-owned Global Times newspaper, tweeted that U.S. officials can now see protests out their own windows: "I want to ask Speaker Pelosi and Secretary Pompeo: Should Beijing support protests in the U.S., like you glorified rioters in Hong Kong?"

Hua Chunying, a Chinese Foreign ministry spokeswoman, pointed out America's racial unrest by tweeting "I can't breathe," which Floyd said before his death.

In Iran, which has violently put down nationwide demonstrations by killing hundreds, arresting thousands and disrupting internet access to the outside world, state television has repeatedly aired images of the U.S. unrest.

One TV anchor discussed "a horrible scene from New York, where police attacked protesters." Another state TV message accused U.S. police agencies in Washington of "setting fire to cars and attacking protesters," without offering any evidence.

Russia accused the United States of "systemic problems in the human rights sphere." It denounced Floyd's death as the latest in a series of police violence cases against African Americans.

"This incident is far from the first in a series of lawless conduct and unjustified violence from U.S. law enforcement," the Russian Foreign Ministry said in a statement. "American police commit such high-profile crimes all too often."

per protocol and a lawyer representing one of them sent his condolences to the family in an interview with Israeli Army Radio.

Lone Palestinian attackers with no clear links to armed groups have carried out a series of stabbings, shootings and car-ramming attacks in recent years.

Palestinians and Israeli human rights groups have long accused Israeli security forces of using excessive force in some cases, either by killing individuals who could have been arrested or using lethal force when their lives were not in danger.

Some pro-Palestinian activists compared Saturday's shooting to the recent cases of police violence in the U.S.

Overdrive



(DREAMSTIME/TNS)
Cars in a showroom.

By JAMIE L. LARAREAU
DETROIT FREE PRESS

DETROIT—At some point, we've all felt like a chump in a car dealership showroom, waiting for the salesperson to emerge from a shrouded back office where they presumably spent the last 20 minutes pushing a hard-nosed manager to chip another hundred bucks off the price of that car you're haggling over.

After hours at the dealership, it feels like an endless game that you're destined to lose.

But that exhausting and enigmatic car-buying process at bricks-and-mortar stores will be a relic of the past in the aftermath of the coronavirus pandemic, industry experts predict. Mandated stay-home orders have forced car buyers and dealers to adopt a new 'bricks-and-clicks' model instead.

"I can order my groceries to my door, I can order new running shoes to my door ... every part of our life right now is delivered," said Jessica Stafford, general manager of Autotrader and Kelley Blue Book. "Our studies have shown that in the COVID-19 world, I want to be able to have a virtual walk around the car and be able to talk to the dealer. You bring it to my house, it's clean and I can test it. If I do buy it, you bring it back to my house for final delivery."

Many dealers already do some sales online, but few had offered home delivery prior to the pandemic. The emerg-

ing car buying model puts the buyer in the driver's seat with transparent pricing and more options. Those dealers who can't adapt to it will die, industry observers said.

IN CONTROL

Jonathan Winingham, 34, of Cartersville, Virginia, likes being in control when he's buying a car.

Winingham knew he wanted a 2020 Honda Pilot SUV to replace his 9-year-old Toyota Sienna minivan.

So in early May, Winingham, a firefighter and paramedic who works 72 hours a week, shopped online and found a Pilot in silvery blue. He closed the deal largely online and was prepared to drive nearly two hours to Carter Myers Automotive's Valley Honda in Staunton, Virginia, to get his new car. But he didn't have to.

"They offered to deliver it and they showed up with gloves and masks on to my home and everything was sanitized," Winingham said. "They let me test drive it at my house and it was perfect. We signed the paperwork and that was it."

For Winingham, price is the determining factor in a purchase. He has used online shopping in the past to find the best deal, once saving \$4,000 on a past purchase, then driving to a Kentucky dealership to take delivery.

But this experience, with home delivery, has convinced Winingham there's no other way to buy a car in the future.

"I can sit in my home," Winingham said. "I don't have to go to a dealership and go through that eight-hour process and then wait to sign the paperwork."

Winingham secured a 60-month loan at 0.9% interest from Honda and he got a \$500 discount as a first responder and \$1,000 off on another promotion. Valley Honda accepted the most deals, he said.

"Because of the coronavirus, the deals are very good," Winingham said. "I searched Honda's website and I looked at different websites and what dealers priced it at. You have to do your homework. Just because there's a deal out there doesn't mean you have to rush out and make a purchase."

That's also why he likes home shopping. He has control over the purchase process as well as a stronger knowledge about prices and deals.

"I can send an email or a text message to a dealer, go back to mowing my yard and when I have time, I can look at the response," Winingham said. "There's time to then review and consider my purchase. It's less pressure."

TRADITIONAL SALESMEN GONE

Carter Myers Automotive in Charlottesville, Virginia, which has 15 stores throughout the state, has seen its online vehicle purchasing steadily grow since mid-March.

Its home deliveries have shot up from less than 5% of new-

COVID-19 will change the way we buy cars forever

Here's how

vehicle sales to nearly a quarter of all sales, said Liza Borches is CEO of Carter Myers Automotive.

Borches said she expects online buying and home delivery to proliferate.

"We are marketing it to our customers," Borches said. "Our customers are used to ordering products and having them delivered to their home in other areas of their lives. We have a three-day return policy."

No one has asked for a refund for an online car purchase yet, she said.

The biggest change Borches expects after coronavirus for her is in hiring. Gone are the traditional car salesmen. They are being replaced by product experts who are well-versed at communicating across all mediums.

"The sales associate sitting in the showroom waiting for the customer to come in won't exist past COVID," Borches said. "They need to create relationships in person and online."

EASE AND SPEED

On the other side of the country, online sales fit the Del Grande Dealer Group in San

Jose, California. The group already offers no-haggle used-car pricing. It has competitively priced new vehicles to require little negotiation, said Jeremy Beaver, president of Del Grande.

But before the pandemic, the group did zero home deliveries. That changed in April when it delivered all the cars it sold "because we had to," Beaver said referring to the lockdown.

He sees home delivery as the new normal now. It offers dealers a chance to win new customers by providing stellar service.

"Right now, it's due to safety, because people don't want to leave their house," Beaver said.

"In the future, it'll be the ease of the transaction and the speed. There is no waiting, if you do have to come to the dealership, you just have to check a couple of boxes and you're done."

AHEAD OF THE HERD'

Dimmitt Chevrolet Inc. in Clearwater, Florida, has done a "handful" of home deliveries since March, but online transactions have "increased dramatically," owner Larry Dimmitt said. The buyers still come to the store to

get the vehicle, where he has outdoor desks set up.

A third-generation dealer who has run his store since 1972, Dimmitt knows how to survive. He said online sales and home delivery are the future.

"The harder and quicker we adapt to that, the further out ahead of the herd we will be," Dimmitt said. "It'll deal a bit of blow to some of the weaker, more remote stores. There's more necessity to generate more gross profit than relying on fixed operations. And, we'll have to do a real inventory of personnel and face the new reality of combining jobs or let people find something else."

For consumers, he said, online shopping makes the buying process less onerous because of price transparency. But this old-school car guy can't help but wonder if it takes the thrill out of a car purchase, making it just another transaction.

"Some of our products are becoming only commodities. It doesn't look to be as much fun as it used to be," Dimmitt said. "Something like a white, four-door Malibu, there's not a lot of emotion there, it's like a Maytag."

Life & Style

More journalists injured covering George Floyd protests

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The first time officers shot rubber bullets at MSNBC host Ali Velshi and his crew Saturday night in Minneapolis, he was willing to believe that the officials didn't know they were press. The second

time, Velshi said, they knew and shot anyway.

"We put our hands up and yelled, 'We're media!'" Velshi said. "They responded, 'We don't care!' and they opened fire a second time."

Velshi, who said he was hit in the leg by a rubber bullet, is just one of many journalists across the country who sustained in-

juries from police or protesters while covering the George Floyd protests this weekend. And this occurred after Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz promised that journalists would not be interfered with following the Friday arrest of a CNN crew on live television and other reports of violence against reporters from the city where Floyd died, including freelance photographer Linda Tirado, who said she is blind in her left eye after being shot at by police.

Dan Shelley, the executive director and chief operating officer of the Radio Television Digital News Association, said while all the attacks on journalists were "outrageous and unacceptable" that he was particularly

upset about the Minneapolis incidents that happened after the governor made his reassurances.

"They started deliberately attacking journalists who were clearly identifiable and identifying themselves as journalists," Shelley said. "We've heard a number of instances of police officers, either through their words or actions, saying that they just didn't care. To be a journalist in the Twin Cities last night, particularly in Minneapolis, if you were just arrested, you were lucky."

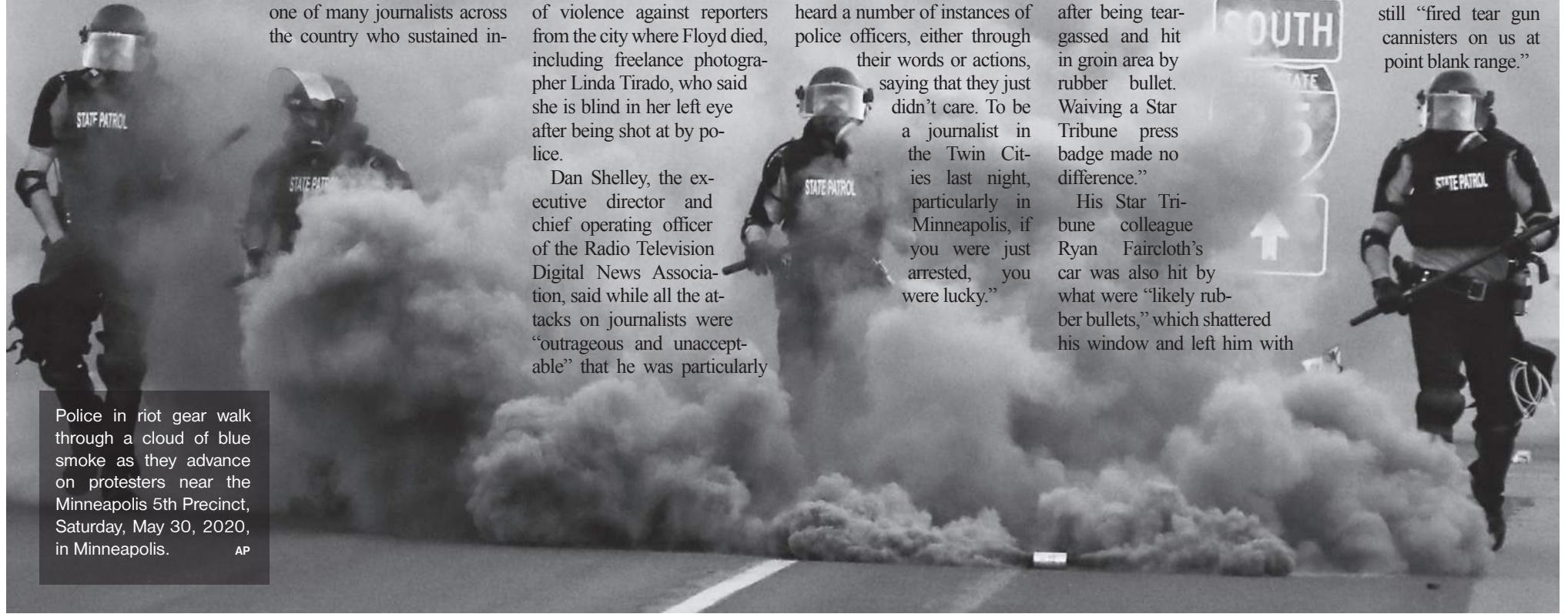
Minneapolis Star Tribune reporter Chris Serres tweeted Sunday that he was twice ordered at gunpoint to hit the ground.

Serres wrote that he was, "Warned that if I moved 'an inch' I'd be shot. This after being tear-gassed and hit in groin area by rubber bullet. Waiving a Star Tribune press badge made no difference."

His Star Tribune colleague Ryan Faircloth's car was also hit by what were "likely rubber bullets," which shattered his window and left him with

cuts on his arm and brow.

Los Angeles Times reporter Molly Hennessey-Fiske said in a video message on Twitter that she and about a dozen other press had identified themselves as such and that Minnesota State Patrol officers still "fired tear gun cannisters on us at point blank range."



Police in riot gear walk through a cloud of blue smoke as they advance on protesters near the Minneapolis 5th Precinct, Saturday, May 30, 2020, in Minneapolis. AP

Weinstein raped me in 1994 at age 17, woman says in lawsuit

NEW YORK (AP)—A woman who says Harvey Weinstein raped her when she was 17 is among four plaintiffs in a new lawsuit against the imprisoned movie mogul, the latest court action accusing him of decades of vile sexual behavior.

The woman, now 43, alleges Weinstein forced her to disrobe, demanded she perform

oral sex on him and raped her in a hotel room in 1994 during what she thought would be a meeting about helping her break into the entertainment business, according to her allegations in the lawsuit filed Thursday in New York City.

The woman, now living in Tennessee, alleges that Weinstein was nearly naked when she walked into the room and

that he threatened her after the rape. She says that he made her hand over her driver's license and told her that she'd never act in films and that he would have associates harm her and her family if she told on him.

Weinstein's lawyer said the disgraced film producer—now serving 23 years in prison for a February rape conviction

intends to defend himself against the claims in the new lawsuit, some of which date back even earlier.

Lawyer Imran Ansari said some of the claims may be barred by the statute of limitations, though the woman alleging she was raped when she was 17 is suing in state court under New York's Child Victims Act, which opened a

window for people to sue over sexually abuse they say they endured as children, sometimes decades ago.

A former model who says Weinstein sexually assaulted her when she was 16 sued him in December under the act, saying she didn't want to be included in a proposed global settlement that would split \$25 million among various accus-

ers because the compensation wasn't enough and because it didn't hold Weinstein and his enablers accountable.

In Thursday's lawsuit, another woman alleges Weinstein jammed his tongue into her mouth and fondled her breasts and vagina as he pinned her against a hotel door at the Cannes Film Festival in France in 1984.

Sister fears for young niece being raised in toxic home

DEAR ABBY: After many years, my sister and I finally have a decent relationship. I feel I can tell her about almost anything.

My brother-in-law, "Aaron," is an alcoholic, and my sister enables him. When he drinks, his already quick temper becomes worse and he "knows everything." To make things worse, they have a 3-year-old child I'll call "Casey." It infuriates me when I see Aaron's crude, foul-mouthed, "omnipotent" behavior in front of Casey.

There have been times he has used my presence (because I babysit Casey) to drink to the point of impairment. When Casey has a tantrum or is overtired and acts her age, Aaron loses patience with her. He yells at her, slams things down in front of her and storms out of the room.

I'm well aware that children watch and learn behavior from their parents. Daughters will seek out boys, then men who behave like their father, thinking it is normal behavior. How do I approach my sister, who buys Aaron whiskey when he's feeling down, that there's a serious problem here?

My husband and I have a stable home and successfully raised five children. We would be willing to take in Casey until Aaron is truly well. My comments to my sister will be met with fury or maybe hatred, but I will do whatever is best for Casey. I love that little girl too much to see her raised in such a toxic environment.

— BETWEEN A DRUNK AND A HARD PLACE

DEAR BETWEEN: You say your sister slips her hus-

band alcohol when he's down. To me that says he may be using it to self-medicate depression.

You DO need to talk with your sister. When you do, explain you are concerned about Aaron's change of behavior when he drinks and the effect it has — and will continue to have — on little Casey. Aaron does need help, but so does your sister. Enabling someone, as well-intentioned as it may be, is not helping the person.

Aaron needs to talk to a doctor about his episodes of depression, and your sister could gain a great deal of insight by attending some Al-Anon meetings. You can find one nearby by visiting al-anon.org. Offer to go with her if she's reluctant.

DEAR ABBY: I am in an interracial relationship (I'm black, and she's white/Hispanic). We have been together for a year.

She has met just about all my family and all of my friends, but I have only met four people in her life. She has a lot of friends on social media, but no one knows about me. She never posts pictures of us or even hints anything about me. She is friends with her ex-boyfriend, and she knows about his girlfriend, but he has no clue about me. No one does. I feel like I'm her invisible man.

She comes from a "country" background, and I'm afraid she is embarrassed or ashamed of me. Am I reading too much into this, or should I be concerned that she may not be into me as much as I am into her? We were talking about

DEAR ABBY

By Abigail Van Buren
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



getting married.

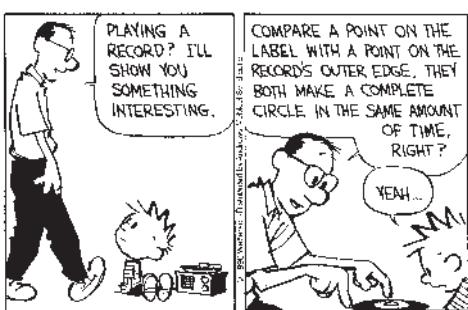
— INVISIBLE MAN IN TEXAS

DEAR INVISIBLE MAN: Something isn't right here. You say you "were" talking about getting married. Are you still talking about it? I find it peculiar that after being together for a year, you haven't met her family, you have met so few of her friends and she has posted nothing about you on social media. The time has come to ask her the reason and whether your romance may have run its course.

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable — and most frequently requested — poems and essays, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby — Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes



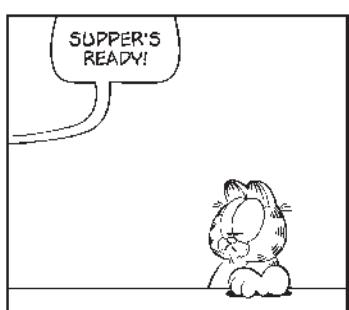
PLAYING A RECORD? I'LL SHOW YOU SOMETHING INTERESTING.

COMPARE A POINT ON THE LABEL WITH A POINT ON THE RECORD'S OUTER EDGE. THEY BOTH MAKE A COMPLETE CIRCLE IN THE SAME AMOUNT OF TIME, SO IT GOES FASTER. SEE, TWO POINTS ON ONE DISK MOVE AT TWO SPEEDS, EVEN THOUGH THEY BOTH MAKE THE SAME REVOLUTIONS PER MINUTE!

By Bill Waterson



Garfield®



SUPPER'S READY!



SUPPER'S EATEN!



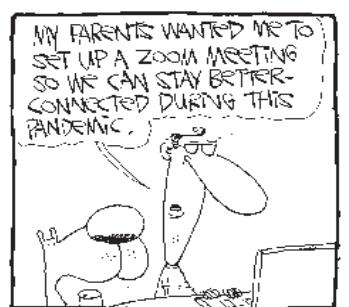
By Jim Davis

Adam@home



By Bryan Basset

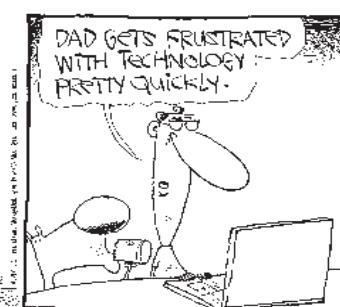
The Duplex



IS THAT THE INSIDE OF A TRASH CAN I'M LOOKING AT?



By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

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Players offer 114-game season, no more pay cuts



NEW YORK

(AP)—Major League Baseball players ignored claims by clubs that they need to take additional pay cuts, instead proposing they receive a far higher percentage of salaries and a commit to a longer schedule as part of a counteroffer to start the coronavirus-delayed season.

Players proposed a 114-game regular season Sunday, up from 82 in management's offer, a person familiar with the plan told The Associated Press. Done that way, the World Series could extend past Thanksgiving.

The person spoke on condition of anonymity because no details were announced.

Opening day would be June 30 and the regular season would end Oct. 31, nearly five weeks after the Sept. 27 conclusion that MLB's proposal stuck to from the season's original schedule. The union offered scheduling flexibility to include more doubleheaders as baseball crams the games into 123 days, leaving little room for days off.

MLB's proposal Tuesday would lower 2020 salaries from about \$4 billion to approximately \$1.2 billion. The union's offer would have salaries total about \$2.8 billion.

The plan was given to MLB during an 80-minute digital meeting among Commissioner Rob Manfred, deputy commissioner Dan Halem, union head Tony Clark and union chief negotiator Bruce Meyer. The meeting was contentious, a person familiar with it said.

Like MLB, the union would increase postseason teams from 10 to 14. But unlike MLB, the players' proposal would extend the postseason about a month past its usual end. MLB has said it is worried about a second wave of the coronavirus in the autumn.

While management proposed an expanded postseason for 2020 only, the union offered it for this year and next.

Players proposed new events that could increase revenue, such as a postseason or offseason All-Star Game and/or Home Run Derby, to wear broadcast microphones on the field and participate in television programming away from ballparks.

They also asked for \$100 million more in salary to be advanced during the resumption of spring training.

A player would receive about 70% of his salary, or 114/162nds, under the union plan.

The union and MLB agreed March 26 that players would receive prorated shares of salaries, part of the deal in which if the season is scrapped each player was guaranteed service time for 2020 matching what the player earned



In this Feb. 24, 2020 file photo, Los Angeles Dodgers' Mookie Betts, left, flies out as Chicago White Sox catcher Zack Collins, right, looks on during the first inning of a spring training baseball game in Glendale, Ariz. AP

in November 2021 and November 2022. Only players whose original 2020 salaries were \$10 million or more would be subject to having money deferred.

While the union says salaries were dealt with then, that agreement covered only games in regular-season ballparks and with fans. The deal called for "good faith" negotiations for games without fans or at neutral sites.

MLB told the union that players would get 89% of revenue in an 82-game schedule with prorated salaries and clubs would combine to lose \$640,000 for each additional game. The union has questioned the accounting.

MLB's offer called for spring training to resume in mid-June and for the season to start around the Fourth of July. The club proposal would take the prorated salaries and reduce them again in a sliding scale. Those at the \$563,500 minimum would get about 47% and those at the top -- led by Mike Trout and Gerrit Cole at \$36 million -- would receive less than 23%. Management proposed \$200 million of salaries would be contingent on the postseason's completion.

All players would have the right to opt out of the season under the union plan. Those who meet qualifications for high risk or reside with a person who qualifies as high risk would receive salary and major league service. Others who opt out would receive major league service time but no salary.

If the postseason is not held because of a second wave, the union plan calls for \$100 million in salary to be deferred with interest, payable

in November 2021 and November 2022. Only players whose original 2020 salaries were \$10 million or more would be subject to having money deferred.

The union estimates high-payroll teams would have up to \$7 million in payroll relief, the person said.

Dodgers, Angels step up workout

Contentious negotiations between players and owners over salaries and health and safety protocols have dimmed hopes for an abbreviated baseball season, but the Dodgers and Angels are preparing as if there will be games this summer.

They are among at least eight big league teams to increase baseball activities in the last week or so, opening

stadiums in Los Angeles and Anaheim and spring training facilities in Arizona for organized workouts while adhering to protocols to avoid the spread of the coronavirus.

Dodger Stadium and Camelback Ranch, the Dodgers' spring training facility in Phoenix, have been open for informal and optional workouts—to one player at a time in Los Angeles and a handful of players at a time in Arizona—since at least the middle of May.

Players are throwing bullpen sessions, taking ground balls, hitting in the cage and taking live batting practice a few days a week in Arizona.

"In Arizona, we've had guys throwing off mounds that I wouldn't let a high schooler throw off of," said Andrew

Friedman, the Dodgers' president of baseball operations. "So we've tried to time it where guys' bullpens can be at Camelback Ranch instead of makeshift mounds that they came across in Phoenix."

The Dodgers received permission from government officials to ramp up workouts in Chavez Ravine, where training room and field access has been restricted to one or two players at a time. Dodgers manager Dave Roberts said workout sessions are staggered by two-hour blocks.

"Right now, we've found a good balance where guys can get their work in and have us err on the side of caution," Friedman said, alluding to measures to prevent the spread of the coronavirus.

"In L.A., it's predominately

focused on [rehabilitating players] and guys focusing on responsible ways of getting in some work. In Arizona, it's been a little more opened up, but we're still restricting various aspects, all the while knowing it could be accelerated pretty quickly."

The Angels are allowing four players to work out at a time in Angel Stadium and Tempe Diablo Stadium in Arizona, with no more than two players plus one instructor in a given area. Several position players, including first baseman Albert Pujols, infielder Tommy La Stella and utility man David Fletcher, have joined pitchers Shohei Ohtani and Griffin Canning, who are rehabilitating from arm injuries and have been throwing in Angel Stadium for weeks.

MLS players agree to salary cuts, possible tourney

LOS ANGELES—The Major League Soccer Players Association voted to approve economic concessions for this season, including across-the-board salary cuts, while also agreeing to play in a proposed summer tournament in Orlando, Florida.

The proposal, made public by the union Sunday night, will now be sent to back to the league for approval by team owners.

"While a difficult vote in incredibly challenging times, it was taken collectively to ensure that players can return to competition as soon as they are safely able to do so," the MLS PA said in a statement.

The MLS season was suspended March 12 because of the coronavirus pandemic. Teams had played just two games of the season.



Major League Soccer gave its teams the go-ahead Thursday to begin small voluntary group training sessions outdoors. Teams must follow a strict protocol, as well as local public health and government restrictions.

Not all of the league's teams have returned to training.

Details of the Orlando tournament were still under consideration, but the league's 26 teams and limited staff

would be sheltered at hotels with games played without fans at ESPN's Wide World of Sports Complex at Disney World.

In addition to salary cuts, the union's proposal includes reduced team and individual bonuses, as well as concessions to the existing and future terms of the collective bargaining agreement. Details were not immediately available.

MLS did not immediately comment on the proposal.

MLS first announced last month it was exploring possible "changes to player compensation" because of the financial hit the league and

teams were facing with the extended suspension in play.

"We are seeking to work collaboratively with the MLS PA to find a solution that provides a safety net for all players, opportunity to earn full salary in the scenario where all matches are played with fans, and in particular provides protection for the players at the lower end of the salary scale," the league said in a statement at the time.

MLS and the players' union agreed to terms of a new contract in early February, but it had not been ratified when the season was put on hold. (NBC)

Jordan, LeBron speak out against racism



CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP)—Michael Jordan is “deeply saddened, truly pained and plain angry.”

With protesters taking to the streets across the United States again Sunday, Jordan released a statement on George Floyd and the killings of black people at the hands of police.

“I am deeply saddened, truly pained and plain angry,” the former NBA star and current Charlotte Hornets owner said in the statement posted on the Jordan brand’s social media accounts and the team’s Twitter account.

“I see and feel everyone’s pain, outrage and frustration. I stand with those who are calling out the ingrained racism and violence toward people of color in our country. We have had enough.

“I don’t have the answers, but our collective voices show strength and the inability to be divided by others. We must listen to each other, show compassion and empathy and never turn our backs on senseless brutality. We need to continue peaceful expressions against injustice and demand accountability. Our unified voice needs to put pressure on our leaders to change our laws, or else we need to use our vote to create systemic change. Every one of us needs to be part of the solution, and we must work together to ensure justice for all.

“My heart goes out to the family of George Floyd and to the countless others whose lives have been brutally and senselessly taken through acts of racism and injustice.”

Floyd was in handcuffs a week ago when a Minneapolis police officer pressed his knee into his neck as he pleaded that he couldn’t breathe. Derek Chauvin was charged Friday with third-degree murder and second-degree manslaughter.

Meanwhile, LeBron James has added his voice to those of prominent athletes around the world expressing outrage over the death of Floyd.

In a Twitter post Sunday morning, the Lakers star wrote, “Why Doesn’t America Love US!!!!!!?? TOO.

This isn’t the first time James has spoken out on social media since Floyd.

On Instagram, James posted an image of Chauvin pinning Floyd down alongside an image of former San Francisco 49ers quarterback Colin



AP
In this April 28, 2014 file photo, Charlotte Bobcats owner Michael Jordan, left, shakes hands with Miami Heat’s LeBron James, right, after Game 4 of an opening-round NBA playoff series in Charlotte, N.C.

ness for some of the injustices we’ve been seeing. It’s not OK.”

Boston Celtics guard Marcus Smart explains why he took part in a protest in Boston on Sunday.

Silver condemns racism in memo

NBA commissioner Adam Silver addressed league employees on the protests seen across the country this week, resolving to use the NBA’s platform to fight racial injustice in an internal memo.

Directly mentioning the deaths of Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery and Breonna Taylor, Silver said the league shared in the outrage and offered condolences to their families and friends. Silver drew direct lines between the ongoing coronavirus pandemic and the current injustice seen by the black community.

“Just as we are fighting a pandemic, which is impacting communities and people of color more than anyone else, we are being reminded that there are wounds in our country that have never healed,” Silver said. “Racism, police brutality and racial injustice remain part of everyday life in America and cannot be ignored. At the same time, those who serve and protect our communities honorably and heroically are again left to answer for those who don’t.”

Silver said he was “heartened” by the dozens of players, coaches and other league figures who have spoken out, specifically mentioning “peaceful” protest and work for meaningful change.

“Together with our teams and players, we will continue our efforts to promote inclusion and bridge divides through collective action, civic engagement, candid dialogue and support for organizations working toward justice and equality,” Silver said. “We will work hand-in-hand to create programs and build partnerships in every NBA community that address racial inequity and bring people together.”

Kaepernick kneeling during the national anthem, with the words “This ... is why.”

James also posted a photo of himself Wednesday wearing a shirt with the words, “I can’t breathe,” which he wore during warmups for a game following the 2014 death of Eric Garner in New York. On Saturday, James shared reactions from activist and rapper Killer Mike and video clips from late-night talk show host Jimmy Kimmel and Ana DuVernay, who co-wrote and directed the Netflix drama “When They See Us,” about the Central Park Five.

James isn’t the only professional

athlete or coach calling for justice in the wake of Floyd’s death.

In an opinion piece published by the Los Angeles Times, Lakers legend Kareem Abdul-Jabbar writes on institutional racism and people pushed to their limit.

Former NBA player Stephen Jackson, who was friends with Floyd, has taken part in protests in Minneapolis. The 14-year NBA veteran called Floyd “my twin” while speaking during a rally Friday. “A lot of times, when police do things they know that’s wrong, the first thing they try to do is cover it up, and bring up their background—to make it seem like

the . . . that they did was worthy,” Jackson said during the rally. “When was murder ever worthy? But if it’s a black man, it’s approved.” In addition to Jackson, Minnesota Timberwolves players Karl-Anthony Towns and Josh Okogie attended the rally.

Boston Celtics guard Jaylen Brown led a peaceful protest march in Atlanta on Saturday. “I drove 15 hours to get to Georgia, my community,” Brown told ESPN. “This is a peaceful protest. Being a celebrity, being an NBA player, don’t exclude me from no conversations at all. First and foremost, I’m a black man and I’m a member of this community. . . We’re raising aware-

a huge boost in the community when Tiger Woods played as a 20-year-old who had just turned pro. John Deere stepped in as title sponsor in 1999, and it has thrived in recent years as the final stop before the British Open.

Peterson said the John Deere Co. supported the decision.

“It wasn’t their vote that made the final decision,” he said. “They had a concern about all the risks involved.”

While calling it a “sad day”—the tournament produced books celebrating its 50th year—Peterson said its “Birdies for Charities” program is not tied exclusively to the event because it involves

flat donations. It raised \$13.8 million last year for more than 500 local charities, and Peterson said he expects about \$10 million to be donated this year.

The tournament had not begun to build out the infrastructure for the tournament, with or without fans. Peterson said even when the tour announced a restart on June 11-14 at Colonial in Fort Worth, Texas, he had his doubts about fans.

“Getting people from the parking lots to the golf course, through admission, hospitality sponsors hearing from their guests,” he said. “I had one sponsor said 90% of their clients said they would not be coming.”

Along with losing revenue from ticket sales and the much bigger hit of hospitality, Peterson said the three pro-ams that would have been held typically bring in \$1 million.

“We understand and respect that the Quad Cities market has dynamics and challenges that prevent the playing of the John Deere Classic in 2020,” said Andy Pazder, the tour’s chief tournaments and competitions officer. “As we’ve seen through the years, the community support for the John Deere Classic is unwavering and I have no doubt the event will return stronger than ever in its 50th playing in 2021.”

John Deere Classic canceled



I L L I N O I S
(AP)—Two weeks before the PGA Tour is set to resume its schedule, John Deere Classic officials decided Thursday to cancel what would have been the fifth tournament back.

Tournament director Clair Peterson said there were too many obstacles to overcome involving too many risks from the COVID-19 pandemic, and that it made financial sense in the long run to not hold the tournament.

The John Deere would have

been July 9-12 in Silvis, Illinois, the fifth PGA Tour stop under the revised schedule. The tour is not allowing spectators for at least a month, meaning the Deere could have been the first tournament that allowed fans.

However, Peterson noted an Illinois mandate that restricts gatherings to 50 people through the summer, and other issues at TPC Deere Run such as the size of the clubhouse and getting people from parking lots through the gates.

“Any version—an event

with fans, without fans, something in between -- we’re going to lose money,” he said. “Or do we want to take the long view of this and ensure long-term security.”

The PGA Tour now has had 11 tournaments on its schedule with total prize money of just under \$92 million canceled.

This would have been the 50th anniversary of John Deere Classic.

The tournament began in 1971—won by Deane Beman, who later became PGA Tour commissioner—and got

Flacco ‘embracing’ backup role but not done as starter



NEW YORK
(AP) — Joe Flacco has hoisted the Lombardi Trophy and been the Super Bowl MVP.

He has been the highest-paid quarterback in the NFL and one of the faces of a franchise.

Now with the New York Jets, Flacco is merely a 35-year-old backup coming off an injury and tasked with helping Sam Darnold achieve the kind of success he has enjoyed in his pro career.

“I’m fully embracing it,” Flacco said Thursday on a video call. “I mean, it’s where I am right now, and I’m glad to be on a team playing football in some capacity.”

That’s the reality right now for Flacco, who signed a one-year deal worth \$1.5 million last week that includes \$3 million more in possible incen-

tives. It also comes with quite a bit of uncertainty for Flacco.

He’s on a new team in a new system, still recovering from surgery on a herniated disk in his neck and might not ever take a snap in a game this season. That, of course, would be good news for Darnold and the Jets. For Flacco, though, he envisions himself back under center as a starter.

Maybe not this year. But in years to come.

“Oh, for sure,” Flacco said. “We’re talking about all these things and that is my role, to help the team out. But, I obviously still believe that I’m a starting quarterback. And, you never know what three years down the line is going to look like. So I still have that confidence and I still have the want-to to do that.”

“But, at this moment, that’s not my role. My role is to help the team get better and to help



In this Oct. 27, 2019, file photo, Denver Broncos quarterback Joe Flacco (5) throws during the first half of an NFL game against the Indianapolis Colts in Indianapolis. AP

a young quarterback see things as clearly as possible and helping along his journey to being a longtime NFL quarterback.”

Flacco is trying to get up to speed on coach Adam Gase’s offense by participating this week in virtual meetings. He won’t put a timetable on when he’ll be able to potentially play, but there’s a chance it might not come until sometime in September.

He’s leaving that to the doctors, though. Flacco is just happy to have another chance to continue his playing career.

“Sometimes it’s not your decision, but not playing was never never one of my choices,” Flacco said. “It was a tough decision for me to get surgery or

not to get surgery in one respect because I just didn’t have a ton of symptoms telling me, ‘Hey, you need to get surgery.’”

“But when it became evident that I probably wasn’t going to play football again unless I did get something done and a team that signed me could feel comfortable that, when I was ready to go out on the field, I was going to stay healthy, at least in terms of this (neck) area, it became very clear that this is what I had to do.”

Flacco spent his first 11 NFL seasons in Baltimore, where current Jets general manager Joe Douglas was a scout in 2008 and pushed for the Ravens to draft him. They did, with the 18th overall pick out of Dela-

ware. In his fifth season, Flacco helped lead Baltimore to a Super Bowl victory and was rewarded by becoming the highest-paid quarterback in NFL history at the time with a six-year contract worth \$120.6 million.

Injuries have limited Flacco to 17 games over the past two seasons. Baltimore moved on and traded him to Denver last winter, clearing the way for Lamar Jackson to take over as the Ravens’ new face of the franchise. Flacco started the first eight games for the Broncos, but injured his neck in Week 8 and missed the rest of the season.

“I know what it’s like to not feel like being part of a team because you really can’t have your hand in things,” said Flacco, who

was waived by Denver in March with a failed physical designation. “I think in the role I’m in now, you can definitely have a good, positive effect on the team.”

There had been some questions about Flacco’s willingness to mentor young players, highlighted by his comments last year that he didn’t think developing players—rookie Drew Lock, in particular—was part of his job.

In both Baltimore and Denver, though, Flacco was still the starter with young QBs behind him. In New York, he goes in knowing his primary role is as an experienced backup to Darnold, who has missed three games in each of his first two NFL seasons.

The two actually spoke on the phone for a few minutes before Flacco’s call with reporters.

“Listen, I don’t think there are any backups in this league that don’t have aspirations to be a starting quarterback,” Flacco said. “It’s just part of the business. It’s part of being on a team and knowing your role. And, roles can change here and there. You can be on different teams from year to year. I obviously know that at this point.

“But right now at this point in time, I know what my role is and I’m glad to do so.”

TENNIS

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opment from home,” it added.

There are over 30 courses available and topics include introduction to strategy and tactics; ethics in coaching; goal setting; and tennis parents. Completion of these courses will only take about 20 minutes. This free offering will be beneficial for individuals who are considering coaching in the future, as OTF will require coaches wishing to attend regular workshops to first complete certain courses

under this platform

“As it stands, we in the Pacific have very few registered users, which is something I would like to increase dramatically in the coming months. I will be tracking the number of active users on a monthly basis and would like to report a steady increase in activity from our region,” Purcell was quoted as saying in the OTF news release.

Junior players or volunteer coaches are also welcome to use the online resources, which are available at <https://www.itf-academy.com>. (*Saipan Tribune*)

CNMI

From Page 20

yas, Cole Chambers, Raffy Lee, Cody Leon, David Mafnas, Logan and Blake Mister, Jonah Pohl, John Tam, John Michael Rojas, and Jon Villagomez.

Tenorio was the captain of the winning squad and considered the team’s celebration after the game as one of the highlights of their victory.

“After we shook hands with Guam players, we ran into the crowd and I felt the goosebumps. I knew right after that win that it was the kind of good



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
The CNMI’s Logan Mister stops the ball using his knee, while team captain Sunjoon Tenorio stays close in the play.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
In this file photo, a Guam player talks to goalie Jeremy Luke Collado after failing to save the ball in the first half of their game against the CNMI in the 2013 Marianas Cup at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
CNMI and Guam teams pose for a photo with game officials and Guam Football Association’s George Lai, back row left, and Northern Mariana Islands Football Association president Jerry Tan, back row right.

feeling that I always wanted to experience,” said Tenorio, who was one of the attackers on the team but played centerback in that game and was tasked for clearing the ball.

“I think the original centerback could not play, so coach put me there to kick the ball

out every time Guam will attack and I was happy we won,” Tenorio said.

The many-time CNMI national team member added that every time they play Guam, they feel more motivated.

“We play at a different level every time we challenge

Guam,” Tenorio said.

Kim seconded their former team captain, saying that Guam and the CNMI’s match is always fierce.

“There’s a lot of emotions involved whenever we play Guam. So much pride is at stake,” Kim said.

Players offer
114-game
season, no
more pay cuts

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Sports



Jordan,
LeBron speak
out against
racism

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

CNMI victory vs Guam sweeter

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

CNMI national team players may have earned a historic win over Macau, but victories against rival Guam will always be special.

One of them was the CNMI Boys U12 National Team's 4-0 shutout in the Marianas Cup at the Oleai Sports Complex Field. Clayton Izuka, Edwin Kim, Joshua Abragan, and Sun-joon Tenorio played for the winning squad



"Up to this very day, I could not believe that throw went it. In my mind, all I want to do was give the ball to my teammates, but Guam's attacking half was focused on defense so I threw one long pass," Izuka said.

After the heave, Izuka's teammate Steven Martin and one Guam defender chased the ball, which eventually dropped inside the penalty box and bounced off the hands of Guam keeper Jeremy Luke Collado before going in.

"My teammates started to run to me and our supporters were chanting, while I, still in shock, looked at referee Panapa Peteru, waiting if he would count it as an actual goal," said



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

In this Dec. 8, 2013 file photo, the CNMI U12 National Team players and coaches pose with their trophy after beating Guam, 4-0, in the Marianas Cup at the Oleai Sports Complex Field. Also in the photo are Guam Football Association's George Lai, right, and Northern Mariana Islands Football Association president Jerry Tan.

the 19-year-old athlete, who was given the monicker "Hand Grenade" after that rare goal.

Anthony Fruit, Joshua De Leon, and Alex Park also scored for the CNMI to com-

plete the shutout win. Other members of the team coached by Jersh Angeles and Johann

Noetzel were Jonathan Capa-

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Goalkeeper Clayton Izuka gestures to his teammates during a brief break in their game against Guam.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

In this undated file photo, young tennis players line up while attending a briefing for a mini tennis tournament at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

Tennis education, coaching course for free

As members of the CNMI tennis community await for the resumption of play on island, players, coaches, and parents are encouraged to take online courses with the International Tennis Federation for free.

Oceania Tennis Federation development officer Garry

Purcell has announced last week the availability of tennis education and coaching course via the ITF Academy.

"To assist tennis coaches globally during this time of uncertainty, the ITF is making more resources on its ITF



Academy platform available for free for the duration of this period," OTF stated in its website.

"ITF Academy features a wealth of resources that will benefit coaches, parents, teachers, and anyone who wants to improve their own

game. Hundreds of theory-led content pieces, including videos, articles and scientific research papers, are available on the ITF's educational platform, enabling users to make tangible progress in their personal and professional devel-

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